The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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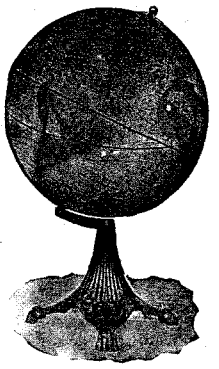

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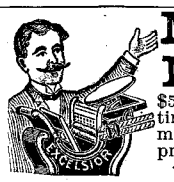

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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

RENEWED interest in the struggle in South Africa has arisen in America with the advance of the newly arrived British troops. "The British avalanche," as the Providence *Journal* says, "is in full motion," and what the result will be is the subject of considerable speculation. A London correspondent of one of the New York papers said a few days ago that if General Joubert could see all the strategic plans with which the press credit him, he would have serious doubts of his own sanity. No doubt he has some plans, however, and a few guesses at what they are form an interesting part of the war comment. The Rochester *Herald*, for example, believes that Joubert has been able to capture Ladysmith at any time since the battle of Glencoe, but has held off to draw General Buller's forces up into the "neck of Natal," where the Boers can most easily defend their frontier. Generals Clery and Hildyard, therefore, who are trying to relieve Ladysmith, are, according to this theory, marching right into Joubert's trap. The New York *Press*, however, has a different theory, by which it appears that the old Boer commander himself is the one who is in a trap. General Methuen, the despatches tell us, is rushing a large force northward to the relief of Kimberley and Mafeking, while Generals Gatacre and French are to invade the Orange Free State from the south. If these forces are successful, *The Press* points out, General Joubert will find that a big British army is hurrying to Johannesburg and Pretoria while he is down in the "neck of Natal," 350 miles away. Whatever may be the Boer and British plans, it is agreed that critical times for the Boer forces have begun, and that what they are to do at the beleaguered cities they must do quickly.

Boer Prospects Dark.—"In spite of the frequent successes the Boers have met with we can not see that indications so far hold out the smallest prospect of final success to them. As a matter of fact, the campaign so far has been a complete failure upon their side. The theory upon which they went into the war was that they would rush the British garrisons in the country before they could receive succor from home, and overwhelm them with superior numbers and make them prisoners before any relief could reach them. But the stubborn and obstinate defense that has been made by the English at each point attacked has upset all of the Boers' plans and nullified all of their calculations. They have made a dead failure of what they started out to accomplish. They have not taken a single point besieged, and, except for the looting forays they have made into undefended territory, the military situation is just the same to-day as it was when they threw their ultimatum in Queen Victoria's face. . . . We think we should risk but little in predicting that Buller will march straight to Pretoria when he does start, with but little serious opposition, that he will occupy the capital of the Boers, and, after that, little will remain but for him to disperse the separated organized bodies as they appear, and the war in the Transvaal will be over."—*The Richmond Times*.

GENERAL METHUEN,
Commanding relief of Kimberley.

President Kruger and Consul Macrum.—"If a London report be true, President Kruger is making a serious mistake in his attitude toward the United States in this crisis. It is asserted that he has refused to permit the United States consular agent at Johannesburg to act as the British agent during the war. It is said that Kruger objects to Mr. Macrum on the ground that the claims of this country to neutrality are prejudiced by its evident friendship for England. One result of this attitude is that it is impossible for the English authorities to secure information about their men held by the Boers as prisoners save through military channels, which is an awkward method and not reliable. It is fairly incredible that the President of the South African Republic should take this absurd ground. . . . During the war between Spain and the United States the former country was represented at this capital by the French ambassador, whose people at home had shown the most virulent sympathy for Spain throughout the preliminary proceedings and continued to do so even throughout the war. Nevertheless, M. Cambon was cordially accepted as the Spanish diplomatic agent, and his services in the formulation of the preliminary peace terms were gladly utilized. At the

CHARLES E. MACRUM,
United States Consul at Pretoria.

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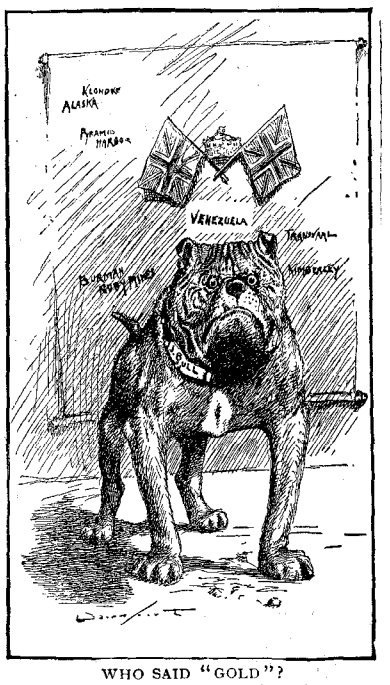
same time the American interests in Spain were cared for by the British ambasssador there, and his status was never questioned because of the well-known fact of England's leanings toward theUnited States in the quarrel. 'Oom Paul' shows his failure to appreciate the true nature of governmental rights and obligations if he thus rejects the credentials of the American consular agent as the representative of British interests in the Transvaal. A verification of this London report would go far toward lessening whatever degree of esteem for him and sympathy for his cause may exist to-day in the United States. For his own sake his traveling representative in Europe, Dr. Leyds, should send him word to desist from this foolish suspicion and act according to the established customs in time of war."—*The Washington Star.*

MAJ.-GEN. H. J. T. HILDYARD,
In command at Estcourt.

The Scandals Have Begun.—"That the British commissary department is under suspicion, that rotten transports have been purchased or chartered at the highest market price, that the army contractor has a latchkey to the ministerial quarters in Downing Street—these and similar statements have a familiar sound recalling the flush times of 1898. . . . And there is good reason to believe that the stories thus far told have a substantial foundation. It is only three or four months since it was charged and not denied in the House of Commons that most of Her Majesty's ministers were interested in private enterprises which depended directly upon government patronage. One noble lord was connected with a gun foundry; another was chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Navigation Company, which furnishes many transports to the War Office; still another belonged to a firm which manufactures uniforms—and so on throughout the list. The statement, as we have said, was not denied. On the contrary, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach arose and defended the noble lords and right honorable gentlemen on the ground that their interest in these profitable enterprises was 'an innocent and proper form of relaxation from public duties.' Sir Michael himself recently relaxed long enough to sell to the Government, for the purpose of military maneuvers, a tract of waste land on Salisbury Plains for which he exacted something like $100 per acre. Its real value, according to local estimates, was from 75 cents to $1.50 per acre. With statesmen like these, therefore, relaxing themselves in time of peace, what may we not expect when the stress of war affords opportunities for recreation tenfold more profitable? Is it not likely that the tales thus far told are a mere foretaste of what is to come? May we not confidently expect to see Alger, Hecker & Co. thrown in the shade, while the odor of 'canned roast beef' will appear like attar of roses compared with the emanations wafted from the British commissariat?"—*The Chicago Chronicle.*

MAJ.-GEN. J. D. F. FRENCH,
To invade Orange Free State.

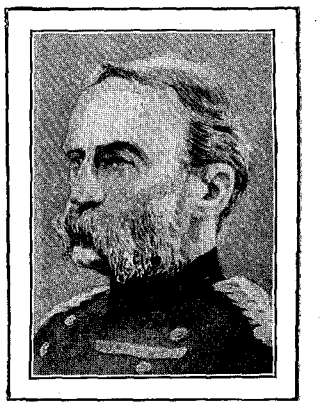


WHO SAID "GOLD"?
With apologies to "Who said 'Rats'?"
—*The New York Journal.*

Crushing Blow Necessary.—"The necessity of once and forever crushing the Boers will now come home to the English authorities; for they must, if from no other motive than their own political safety, redouble their efforts to concentrate in South Africa an army which shall bear down resistance by mere force of numbers. This has been their purpose all along, but, despite the resources at Great Britain's command, she has been late in assembling on the ground a force adequate to the task appointed for it. Great Britain has, however, either in South Africa now or on its way thither what is pronounced by a competent authority 'the largest purely British army' that has ever left British shores. Reckoning the local force in imperial pay, the regulars already on the ground, etc., it was estimated a week ago that the British force to be employed in South Africa would not fall far short of 80,000 men. In employing such an army the British Government has been sharply criticized as overestimating the enemy, but the result of the campaign thus far has more than justified its opinion that opponents of courage, skill, and activity were to be reckoned with. The employment of so large a force is a humane measure, too, for it will correspondingly shorten the war by making its issue depend upon one or two actions in which real armies, not detachments, shall be used."—*The Boston Transcript.*

GENERAL GATACRE,
To invade Orange Free State.

Boer Lessons for the British.—"It is an excellent thing for the finality of a settlement at the end of a war, that the conquered shall have a wholesome respect for the prowess of the conquered, tho the conqueror may be Mr. Chamberlain himself and the conquered but a backward Boer; that the conqueror shall, in his definitive treaty of peace, be forced to bear in mind that the conquered can shoot extremely straight with a rifle, even tho he appear at a disadvantage, in spite of his German tuition, when it is a question of artillery practise. He may still have a contempt for him, as a 'rude Carinthian Boer,' when the question is of social amenities, but that he is an unpleasant person to go to war with not even Mr. Chamberlain can any longer dispute. . . . And upon the whole we can not regret that even so one-sided a war should be prolonged long enough to show the victors that, in more ways than one, they have found foemen worthy of their steel. It is of good augury for the future of South Africa that it should be so."—*The New York Times.*



LIEUT.-GEN. C. F. CLERY,
Aiding relief of Ladysmith.

One Charge Disproved.—"It need hardly be said that the British estimates of the losses of the Boers have been overdrawn. That is evident in many ways. It is true that the Boers have been handled far more roughly than they ever were before in fighting the troops of Great Britain. The old virtual immunity from punishment in actions with British regulars has passed away. And yet the Boers come on for more battles. . . . 'Kill five hundred of the Dutch,' one British jingo paper insisted, 'and there will be no need of anything more but sending in the coffins. That will be the end of the war, and the bubble of Boer military prowess will be pricked forever.' If there is any one thing which

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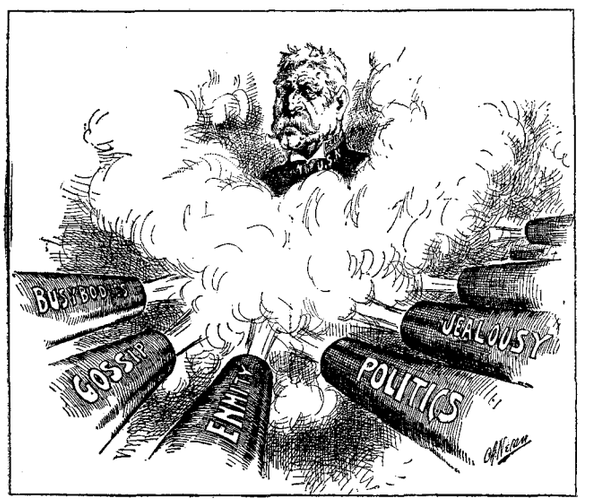
the war in South Africa has already proved it is the utter falsity of such statements. The Boers have not gone unscathed in the battles fought. They have suffered severely in many actions, both in attack and defense. All the world knows how far they have been from running or giving up their unequal struggle for independence. They will never be called cowards again, even by their most vindictive and reckless foes."—*The Cleveland Leader.*

ADMIRAL DEWEY AND HIS HOUSE.

WHAT appeared on the surface to be two strong and sudden reversals of public feeling toward Admiral Dewey within the space of a few days have called out some interesting reflections on hero-worship, and have led to some serious inquiries whether our national spirit is not deteriorating and becoming as fickle as that of the French. A careful examination of the newspapers, however, shows that the "wave" or "storm" of disapproval (to use a mild term) which assailed the admiral was confined (in its public expression at least) almost entirely to the city of Washington, D. C., while the return "wave" of sympathy and



MORE DEADLY THAN SPANISH GUNS.
—*The New York Herald.*

esteem has come from practically all the rest of the country. Many papers outside Washington, it is true, admit that the admiral made an error of judgment in giving away the people's gift even to his wife; but they do not consider it sufficient cause for abating one jot of their admiration for his character and proved abilities. The New York *Journal* expresses the feeling found in many papers when it says:

"Admiral Dewey may undo the deed to the house presented him by a small portion of his fellow countrymen, but he can never undo the deed of May 1, last year. He asked no favors of his country or of his countrymen. He asked no favors of Montojo. He asked no favors of foreign fleets anchored at Manila. He asked for no demonstration in his honor, and, lastly, he did not ask for a house. But what he does ask at present is to be let alone. He has spent almost all his life at sea, and the least this country can do is to allow him to enjoy his 'shore leave' to the end of his days. Suppose a war were to break out to-morrow. Ah! there is where the shoe pinches. It would be, 'For God's sake, send Dewey to the front'; 'By all means, hurry Dewey after them'; 'Let the country rely on Dewey.' Wall Street would go down on its marrow-bones and perform rites to him. The persons who regret their miserable contributions would turn to Dewey with prayers. Then do you know what this grizzled old sailor would do? Newly married, and with almost the only domestic happiness he has ever known before him, he would buckle on his sword, hoist the four-starred flag of Farragut, and go to battle for the honor of his country and the welfare of his selfish countrymen."

Other papers recall the fact that General Grant and General Sherman sold outright houses that had been given them in recognition of their services, and no one thinks the less of them for it. "It is too bad," says the New York *Times*, "for our own sake and for Dewey's sake, it is too bad, not merely because it makes us appear ridiculous in the eyes of foreigners, but because these alternating currents of emotion, this most abrupt substitution of the cold shoulder for the warm heart, argue a want of steadiness in our make-up." To forget Dewey's services in making possible a new era in our national life "even overnight, for some petty mistake in his private life," says the Chicago *Inter Ocean*, "is to shame the name of gratitude and to discredit the intelligence of the American people." The Brooklyn *Eagle* thinks that the transaction, instead of being a mistake, was, after all, a wise arrangement. Says *The Eagle:*

"Let us all learn charity, while also learning a little law. When held in the name of the admiral, the house was subject to dower rights. Since deeded to the son by the gracious woman to whom the admiral lovingly gave it all, the house has had an indivisible Dewey title. This not only perfects the intent of the gift in the present but secures that intent for the future. The result is better than the case was before the incident began, which is now so happily closed. Out of the bitter has come sweet."

A number of papers have remarked that no doubt the great majority of the Washington people who hissed the admiral's picture at a biograph entertainment and expressed their indignation in the cafés, and wrote the letters published in *The Evening Star*, never gave a dollar toward buying the house whose transfer now rouses their resentment. Several letters have appeared offering to refund the subscriptions of any dissatisfied contributors to the Dewey home fund, but none of the contributors seem to have responded. The Chicago *Tribune* compares some of England's gifts to her heroes, and says that those who are vilifying Admiral Dewey only show their own contemptible littleness:

"After Marlborough had routed a French army and captured a French marshal and his command, Parliament appropriated nearly two and a half million dollars to build for him Blenheim, which is still one of the most imposing and splendid edifices in England. The English nation, feeling grateful to Wellington for services at Waterloo, gave him Strathfieldsaye, costing about $1,300,000. Prior to Waterloo he had been made a duke, given a pension of $50,000 a year, and voted nearly a million dollars in money. When England makes presents to heroes it is on a grand scale, so the world may know the services of those heroes are fully appreciated. It would be humiliating and belittling for this nation of 75,000,000 people, with vast wealth, enormous resources, and a limitless domain, were it to be understood that it had manifested its gratitude to a naval hero by giving him a $50,000 house in Washington and then censuring him because he felt himself at liberty to make a present of it to his newly wedded wife."

As to the suggestion that the Dewey Arch in New York be called the "Navy Arch," the New York *Sun* says that the names of those who made this suggestion "should be posted somewhere in imperishable brass."

"Ten Per Cent. a Week."—The collapse of "The Franklin Syndicate" in Brooklyn, where an immense number of poor people had been induced to deposit their savings with an irresponsible young man on the promise of ten per cent. a week interest, has drawn a number of exclamations from the press. The number of depositors and the amount of deposits are not fully known, but the office was crowded with depositors up to the last moment, and it is said that the last day's receipts were about $15,000. Some of the papers think that the total deposits must have reached a million or more. The New York *Herald* says of the incident:

"The press learned of the affair and warned the gullible portion of the public of the risk they were running, or, rather, the cer-

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tainty there was that the proverbial 'fools and their money' were being parted at the Miller residence and office. The banks heard of it and threw the young man out, metaphorically, neck and heels, and the fact was published in the newspapers. Even the church which he attended took a hand in to utter warnings. What was the result? A mob at the door of the syndicate to demand their money back? Not at all. A greater crush than ever of depositors, after that golden-hued will-o'-the-wisp, 520 per cent.! As long as that sign was hung out as the bait there were gudgeons to be caught. Really, since the South Sea Bubble nothing, in a comparatively small way, seems to have so bedeviled the common sense of a metropolitan community. Tho the folly of the offer was apparent on the face of the proposition to pay enormous profits that could not possibly be earned, tho men and women had gathered their savings through years of sweating toil, nothing seemed able to stop them from pouring funds into the cash drawer of the little frame house in Brooklyn where Miller was doing business 'in his hat,' as the saying is. The Kings County Grand Jury, however, has come to the rescue of these poor, deluded mortals who have been flinging their dollars into this financial bottomless well on the promise that they would come up again five-hundredfold in quantity—or, at least, the jury has barred the way to others who were rushing in. Miller was indicted yesterday for conspiring to procure money under false pretenses, and a warrant issued for his arrest. The end of the game was bound to come, and the finish was sure to be just that which has wound up the doings of the Franklin Syndicate. But the wonder is that the game lasted so long and that so many dupes were found to plank down good money against the loaded dice of vain promises."

The "country cousin," remarks *The Herald*, has the laugh on the "city folks" this time.

GERMAN-AMERICANS AND THE ELECTIONS.

IT was no secret during the recent campaign that the "anti-imperialists" in Ohio and elsewhere relied not a little on the German-American vote, on the theory that the men who had left home and come to a strange land to escape militarism and its burdens would vote against a supposed similar danger here. What the German-American voters actually did when election day arrived, however, according to reports in the Republican press, was just the opposite. If these reports are correct, the national campaign plans for next year will have to be revised. The German-American papers admit that many of the Germans voted the Republican ticket; but, they explain, it was in opposition to free silver, not in indorsement of expansion. Now that the German-American press is taking a more active part in political discussions than formerly, the Republican contingent are rallying to the defense of the President and express themselves as convinced that there is no longer any fear of a decided anti-German tendency in the McKinley Cabinet, and that German-American Republicans need not fear that their adherence to their party will be regarded as an indorsement of the so-called Anglo-Saxon policy. But many Democratic papers still regard the McKinley Administration as violently anti-German. The St. Louis *Abend-Anzeiger* (Dem.) says:

"The Republican victories are not great enough to boast of, but they are important enough to insure McKinley's renomination, and unless the Democrats thoroughly revise their policy, the reelection of McKinley can not be prevented. . . . Even the dislike of McKinley's expansionist policy is not strong enough to overcome the fear of the free-silver movement and its results."

The Louisville *Anzeiger* (Dem.) fears that President McKinley will regard the late election as an indorsement of his "imperialistic" policy, and the Evansville (Ind.) *Demokrat* (Dem.) expresses itself in a similar manner. The Pittsburg *Freiheitsfreund* (Rep.) says: "If the results of the elections in Maryland and Nebraska satisfy Mr. Bryan, he is easily pleased indeed, for no national questions were settled." The Detroit *Abendpost* (Dem.) thinks the people chose of the two evils—expansion and free silver—the least harmful. The St. Louis *Westliche Post* (Rep.) says: "The Republican plurality in Ohio has not been obtained for imperialism, but in spite of it. The fear of the expansion swindle was not as great as the dread of a financial panic." The same paper, referring to a remark by *The Globe-Democrat* to the effect that the German-American voter has given up his opposition to the annexation of the Philippines, says that *The Globe Democrat* "evidently thinks a lie well stuck to as good as a truth." The Pittsburg *Volksblatt* (Rep.) says:

"The people have once more indorsed the Administration's financial and economic policy, but it is a frightful piece of 'cheek' on the part of our imperialists when they claim that their expansionist policy has been approved. When we remember that Nash in Ohio obtained 50,000 more votes than McLean, while Jones got altogether 100,000, there is a majority of 50,000 against expansion. The joy of the Republicans is not genuine. The truth is that the craze for conquests as well as the silver swindle have been given a serious blow."

The Cincinnati *Volksfreund* (Dem.) figures in a like manner, as does also the Philadelphia *Demokrat* (Dem.). The New York *Morgen-Journal* (Dem.) considers the Maryland vote as an answer to the Administration's treatment of Admiral Schley. The Chicago *Abendpost* (Ind.) thinks that prosperity as an issue will be much used up between now and the next Presidential election, and that McKinley is not sure of his second term. The Chicago *Freie Presse* still warns against McKinley as an enemy of the Germans. The Chicago (Ill.) *Staats-Zeitung* denies this, and says:

"It has been shown that the McKinley Administration is anxious to be on good terms with Germany, and the opposition to expansion has certainly decreased among the German-Americans since men like Atkinson carried their agitation so far as to approach our soldiers in the Philippines and to encourage Aguinaldo. All this, coupled with the dislike of the silver swindle, has caused many Germans in Ohio to vote Republican."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

ALTHO the German press insists that the Kaiser's trip to England is merely a "family affair," the American papers refuse to view it in that light. "The 'family visit,'" says *The Outlook*, "is doubtless the cover for the transaction of some of the most important state business of our time." Some of the papers point to the presence of Joseph Chamberlain, British Colonial Secretary, at Windsor Castle, where the German Ambassador to England and the German Minister of Foreign Affairs also were visiting the Emperor, and remark that such a meeting could not take place unless some business of world-wide significance were afoot. It is pointed out, too, that whatever else the visit may mean, it does not portend war; and the Emperor's recent conference with the Czar of Russia, his evident desire to keep the peace with France, and his present visit to England are thought to be as full of good omen as the Czar's conference at The Hague. The good omen, however, may not seem so bright to the Transvaal burghers, for the Emperor's visit, as the Philadelphia *Press* says, "is naturally intended to set at rest forever any hopes the Boers may have of European interference, and to demonstrate his personal interest in the British side of the controversy." Considerable speculation is rife as to why the German Emperor is doing all this. Has he conceived a sudden inexplicable love for Great Britain, or is he inspired by a wholesome respect for the "Anglo-Saxon Alliance"? According to the Boston *Transcript* the latter view is probably the true one. *The Transcript* says:

"Unless Germany gets back to friendly relations with both Great Britain and the United States she may find herself in an 'isolation' by no means 'splendid' when great questions of policy in the far East arrive. The Kaiser made a great mistake when,

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after the Chino-Japanese war, he associated himself with the coalition which was hostile to both Japan and Great Britain. He got nothing for his assistance save a Chinese harbor nobody else wanted, and by his attitude helped Russia appropriate almost an empire out of Chinese territory. Not foreseeing the scope of a war between this country and Spain, the Kaiser finds, after four years of anti-British scheming in the far East, Great Britain more powerful on the Chinese mainland than ever before; the United States in possession of the Philippines, and himself with nothing to show for his labors but the shallow harbor of Kiao-Chow. He has driven the United States and Great Britain to a close understanding; has not placated France, and has obtained nothing from Russia. He has acquired all of Samoa that we do not care for, and even this has been granted him on the 'a-vote-is-a-vote principle' by Lord Salisbury. Whether the German people like it or not, the Kaiser may before long find himself in company with the United States, Great Britain, and Japan to the extent of at least public assurance of sympathy with them in their desire to preserve the open door to trade in China."

DEATH OF VICE-PRESIDENT HOBART.

MR. HOBART'S death calls out a large number of comments, not only on his life and public acts, but on the peculiar features of the office which he held. While remarking upon the anomalous position in which a Vice-President is placed—in which his principal function is that of waiting for another man to die—the press almost unanimously agree that Mr. Hobart added new dignity to the office and demonstrated that a Vice-President could be a force in the Government. The Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.) says:

"Under his administration of the office of Vice-President it became of more weight and importance than under the great majority of his predecessors. He was not only an able and popular presiding officer, but his counsel was constantly sought by the members of the Senate, something unusual in that body, and he performed similar service at the White House. No Vice-President was ever on more cordial terms with the head of the nation than was the case between Vice-President Hobart and President McKinley."

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PRESIDENT M'KINLEY AND VICE-PRESIDENT HOBART.

The strong and mutually helpful friendship between the President and Vice-President has been indeed the subject of wide remark, as such friendships between President and Vice-President have heretofore been noticeable principally by their absence. As president of the Senate, too, Mr. Hobart is considered to have exerted unusual power. "No Vice-President in recent years," says the New York *World* (Ind. Dem.), "has been at once so acceptable to and influential in the Senate." Mr. Hobart cast the deciding vote that defeated the Bacon resolution declaring that the Senate in ratifying the treaty with Spain purposed to have the Filipinos treated as the Government had pledged itself to treat the Cubans. His tact was well illustrated when he advised Secretary Alger to resign the war portfolio. "There could scarcely have been a more unpleasant task," says the Baltimore *American* (Rep.), "and yet he discharged it in such a way as to retain the friendship of the late Secretary."

It is a peculiar fact that November seems an unfavorable month for Vice-Presidents. Six Vice-Presidents of the United States have died in office," says the Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune* (Rep.), "and four of the six died in November"; and, as shown by the list he adds, between the 21st and the 25th:

"Those who died in office were George Clinton, of New York, April 20, 1812, at the age of seventy-three years; Elbridge Gerry, of Massachusetts, November 23, 1814, at the age of seventy years; William R. King, of Alabama, April 18, 1853, at the age of sixty-seven years; Henry Wilson, of Massachusetts, November 22, 1875, at the age of sixty-three; Thomas A. Hendricks, of Indiana, November 25, 1885, at the age of sixty-six years, and Garret A. Hobart, of New Jersey, November 21, 1899, at the age of fifty-five years."

Senator Frye, the president *pro tempore* of the Senate, will take Mr. Hobart's place as presiding officer, and John Hay, Secretary of State, now stands next to President McKinley in the line of the Presidential succession, with the Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of War, Attorney-General, Postmaster-General, Secretary of the Navy, and Secretary of the Interior following in the order named. This leads the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) to argue that the office of Vice-President is superfluous:

"Since the method of selecting a Vice-President no longer has reference to the special qualifications of the man chosen, and since the chief places in the Cabinet are given to the men who, of the whole mass of citizens, are most nearly in accord with the policy and purposes of the President, the question recurs with force, whether the Vice-Presidency is not now a superfluity, and a rather dangerous one. The cases of Tyler and Johnson are too familiar to call for more than a reference. Even so conservative an Administration as Arthur's caused a political convulsion which, under some other conditions easily conceivable, might have put a perilous strain upon our institutions."

Mr. Hobart was born in 1844. The main events of his career up to his nomination for the Vice-Presidency in 1896 are sketched as follows by the Philadelphia *Press*:

"Mr. Hobart was a typical American. Like so many of our successful men he was the architect of his own fortune. A clerk in a country grocery store, then a school teacher, he finally started

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out with a capital of $2.50 and a letter of introduction to find an opening where he could study law. He fell into good hands, and his progress, when once admitted to the bar, was phenomenal. Five years later he was city attorney of Paterson, then he became a member of the lower branch of the New Jersey legislature, served as its speaker, became a member of the upper branch and then its presiding officer, and did magnificent work in relieving New Jersey from the rule of the corrupt ring of gamblers, ballot-box stuffers, and public contractors which so long held that State in its grip. . . . His life was one young men can well study with profit. Honesty, ability, and perseverance carried him next to the highest seat in our Government."

CLERGY AND THE HALF-FARE PERMIT.

A CURIOUS case was recently referred for decision to the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Rev. William Bohler Walker, of Joliet, Ill. This clergyman, who was in the habit of using the half-fare permits usually granted to the clergy, made some public remarks relative to certain evils in railway management. His permit was at once cut off by the railway officials. Mr. Walker then made an appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission, contending that the reduction in fare was not a private favor, but a clergyman's privilege regardless of his individual opinions. Commenting on this case, the Springfield *Republican* says:

"We need not say that this contention raised an interesting issue. To combat it the railroads would have to maintain that the half-fare permit was a donation to the individual simply, and that it could fairly and should be used to reward those who spoke well of the roads and punish those who dared to say that the railroad in its relations to the public was not a perfect institution. And this is what the roads did not quite like to maintain. They did not care to say openly that the permit was a bribe. . . .

"So a half-fare permit was quietly sent to Mr. Walker, in the hope, apparently, of hushing him up. But he wanted a ruling from the Interstate Commerce Commission. He wanted to know whether he was taking a permit as a bribe or for the church—whether he could accept a permit and still call himself a free man. He was finally advised by the commission to accept the permit and drop the case, and then the commission said that as the railroad people had withdrawn from their position, there was nothing to decide and the case was dismissed, leaving Mr. Walker in full possession of the field."

The right of the Christian minister to accept his permit, without feeling that his opinions were bought and paid for at the same time, was thus apparently established. Nevertheless, *The Republican* considers the practise of giving clerical concessions a harmful one:

"It is a class discrimination, and hence is out of harmony with the essential character of a common-carrier system. Established under the law, the concession partakes of the nature of a government subsidy to the church, which is out of harmony with American institutions. The church is able to stand alone. It can much better afford to do this than to travel on public charity."

VARIOUS CENTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE accompanying map, sent to the New York *Herald* by a correspondent who signs himself "Statistician," shows at a glance where various sociological phases of our national life find each its balancing point. The center of crime at Columbus, Ohio, has, of course, no reference to the criminal character of its citizens, but indicates that there is just as much crime east of Columbus as west of the point, and just as much north of it as there is south.

The direction and distance of each center from the center of population shows also in what general section of the country the condition illustrated predominates and to what extent. The statistician explains his diagram as follows:

"The Government is about to mark a latitudinal center by placing a monument on the parallel of 45° north, midway between equator and pole, which runs through the hamlet of North Perry, Me. Such a monument as a permanent fixture is possible, but there are other interesting 'centers' which are by no means permanent. The geographical center of the United States, 3,602,990 square miles, excluding Alaska and our new possessions, is in northwestern Kansas, midway between Wakeeney and Hill City. The center of population is, however, far east of this, being fifteen miles west of Columbus, Ind., having moved to that point by easy stages from near Baltimore, where it was in the closing years of the last century, and it is still traveling. If it moves through the coming century as in the present, the year 2000 may find the cen-

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER.
—*The Minneapolis Journal.*

THE SHOOTING STARS AS SEEN BY AGUINALDO.
—*The Minneapolis Tribune.*

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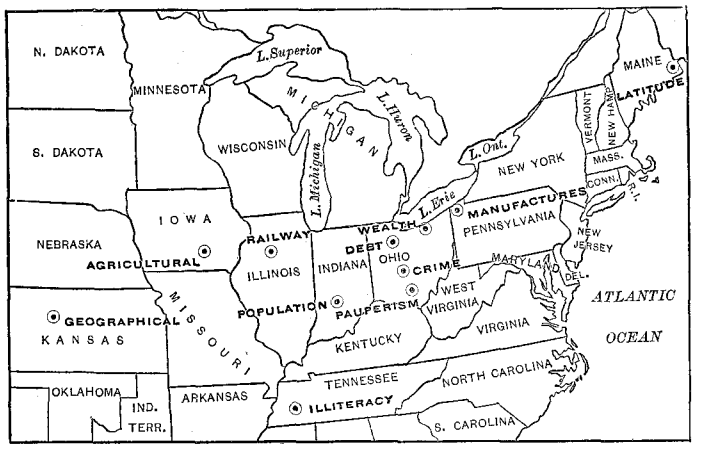
ter of area and population at nearly the same point. The center of wealth of our $84,000,000,000 of real and personal property is at Cleveland, Ohio, north and east of the center of population. And the center of debt is not far away, being at Tiffin, in the same State, as shown by the records of $14,000,000,000 of mortgage and judgment debts. Ohio can also claim the center of pauperism, which is at Chillicothe, and is further charged with the center of crime, which careful figures show to be at Columbus; but these figures are based on the number of prisoners, and not on the degree of offenses. The center of agriculture for the point about which our annual produce of $3,500,000,000 arranges itself is at Ottumwa, Iowa. For the manufacturing center we jump again to the East, and find that the great factories of the New



England and Middle Atlantic States draw it to Erie, Pa. It is a most important center of $10,000,000,000 in capital, $2,500,000,000 in annual wages, and $9,300,000,000 in annual cost of material. To balance this we must again go West, where we find the center of our 187,000 miles of railroad at La Salle, Ill. Coming to education, we find another center in Ohio, for Lima is the point on which balance our colleges and universities, with their 160,000 students. For the reverse of this, for illiteracy, we must make a jump to Jackson, Tenn. This is based on the ability to write on the part of persons more than ten years old. It appears to be far South, but the statistics of most of the Southern States, which return from twenty-eight to fifty-five per cent. of the population unable to write, as against the six and seven per cent. in the Northern States, place the center there."

CHICAGO'S MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT BUREAUS.

THE effort that the State of Illinois is making to find work for its unemployed is attracting considerable notice. The last session of the legislature in that State enacted a law which became operative July 1, opening a free employment agency in each city of more than 50,000 inhabitants, and three such in Chicago. A superintendent, a woman assistant superintendent, and a clerk are appointed for each agency by the governor, upon the recommendation of the State Board of Labor Commissioners. The Chicago offices, it is reported, have been crowded with applicants ever since they were opened, and are proving valuable helps both to working people and to employers. The private agencies, which pay a license tax of $200 each, have made surprisingly few protests against the free bureaus, and some of the leading students of Chicago's social conditions consider the new enterprise an encouraging success. The state law which created these bureaus contains a provision forbidding the furnishing of workmen to an employer whose employees are either striking or locked out. The Chicago *Evening Post* describes and comments upon the work of the bureaus as follows:

"In their first report the free employment agencies in Chicago proved their value, and the report just issued, covering the period from August 1 to October 21, furnishes additional evidence of this. During that time of the men applying for work nearly 50 per cent. were able to secure it, and almost 90 per cent. of the women were provided with employment. To be exact, out of 11,662 men who desired work 5,238 were accommodated, and 4,080 out of 4,421 women who sought situations of one sort or another were enabled to get them. This certainly is not a bad showing for the free employment agencies, but there is one significant feature that stands out in their report. They were able to give work to nearly every one who applied, provided the applicant was able and willing to do the work required. There was practically no scarcity of positions, but there seems to have been a scarcity of men or women competent to fill the places. In other words, there was too much specialization. The applicant for work could or would do only one thing, and that happened to be the thing that nobody wanted done. In the case of the women 341 were unable to find employment, altho there was an unfilled demand for 1,236 women to do various kinds of work. The work was there, but the applicants were unfitted. In the case of the men the figures for the North Side office may be taken as an illustration: There were 1,918 men desirous of securing employment and 1,453 employers unable to find men to do the work they wanted done. In other words, all but 465 of these disappointed men could have had work to do if they were able and willing to do it. But in these days a man seems to be able to do only one thing, and if he can find no opportunity to do that he must remain idle and starve. It is surely a strange state of affairs when men willing to work are compelled to be idle while there is work to be done."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

GENERAL JOUBERT is too busy to stop and deny any London obituary notices.—*The Washington Star.*

IN Kentucky it seems to have resolved itself into a case of the gun behind the man.—*The Memphis Commercial-Appeal.*

JOHN GILPIN, rather than George Washington, seems to have been Aguinaldo's model.—*The Memphis Commercial-Appeal.*

THE voting-machine now in use in many cities hides its diminished head before the Goebel counting-machine.—*The Tacoma Ledger.*

IT will be a long time before Mr. McLean of Ohio will be able to look at his check stubs without perspiration.—*The New York Press.*

GENERAL JOUBERT'S death may correspond to the condition of the Irishman who was unconscious but didn't know it.—*The Detroit Free Press.*

THE South African news censor seems to think that the best way to break the news gently is to withhold the bulk of it.—*The New York World.*

MR. BRYAN announces that he intends to stay in politics until the lid closes on his coffin. Similarly, the bee stayed in the tar barrel, but the barrel didn't mind it.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

HE WAS "TOUCHED."—"What," asked the sentimental young woman, "was the most touching incident you ever witnessed?" And, after some thought, Senator Sorghum answered with emphasis: "An election."—*The Washington Star.*

THE POLITICAL TUG OF WAR IN KENTUCKY.
—*The Indianapolis News.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

VICTOR HUGO'S FIRST INTRODUCTION TO SHAKESPEARE.

TO the author of "Hernani," more than to any other Frenchman, is due the liberation of the French drama from the restraints of classicism; and to him, also, as the leader of the *Romantiques* in the early decades of this century, was due much of the revival of Shakespeare study in France which has continued to the present day. At that time, the enthusiasm for the English dramatist which had been aroused by Garrick and had continued during the Revolution had evaporated, and Voltaire's hostile influence prevailed. In the *Revue de Paris* (October 1), some phases of this Shakespeare revival are touched upon in the new memoirs by Victor Hugo entitled "At Reims: 1825–38," which have been appearing serially in that magazine. Victor Hugo says:

"The first time that I heard the name of Shakespeare was at Reims, from the lips of Charles Nodier. It was in 1825, during the coronation ceremonies of Charles X.

"That name people then did not usually pronounce very seriously. The raillery of Voltaire still was law. Mme. de Staël, a very noble spirit, had adopted Germany, the great land of Kant, of Schiller, and of Beethoven. Ducis was in full triumph; and he was seated, side by side with Delille, in an academic glory not unlike that of the opera. Ducis had succeeded in *making something* of Shakespeare—he had made him possible to the French mind, and had given a rendition of the tragedies. Ducis seemed in effect a man who had molded an Apollo into a Moloch. This was the period when Iago was named *Pézare*, Horatio *Norceste*, and Desdemona *Hédelmone*. A charming and intellectual woman, the Duchess de Duras, exclaimed, '*Desdemona*—what a villainous name!' Talma, 'Prince of Denmark,' in satin lilac tunic bordered with furs, cried, 'Rest, perturbéd spirit!' The poor ghost, in fact, was not tolerated even behind the side scenes. Had he permitted the smallest ghost, M. Evariste Dumoulin would have been severely censured. The verse of Boileau would have been hurled at his head:

"'The spirit is not moved by what it credits not.'

"For the ghost in this famous scene, an 'urn' had been substituted, which Talma carried under his arm: a *ghost* is ridiculous; '*ashes*' are in high favor. Do we not even now say the 'ashes' of Napoleon? Do we not call the removal of the coffin from St. Helena to the Invalides 'the return of the *ashes!*'? Then, too, the sorceries in 'Macbeth' were frowningly eliminated. The porter of the Théâtre Français has his orders, and it was with his broom that they were swept away.

"I deceive myself perhaps in saying that I had never known Shakespeare. I had known him, like the rest of the world, merely to misunderstand him, or to smile. My youth had commenced, as it does always, in prejudgments. Man finds prejudgments almost at the cradle; he throws them aside a little during his manhood, and then, alas! they return in his dotage."

Hugo, in company with his friend Nodier, was present in January, 1825, at the coronation of Charles X. in the old city of Reims, and watched with curious interest the gorgeous ceremonies which celebrated the commencement of his short and stormy reign. He goes on to say:

"The compartment where we were—Charles Nodier and I—touched the benches of the deputies. In the midst of the ceremony, at the instant when the king set his foot on the ground, a deputy of Doubs, named M. Hémonin, turned to Nodier, whom he stood near, and putting his finger on his lips to indicate that the former should not disturb the prayer of the archbishop, placed something in his hand. That something was a book. Nodier took it and opened it at the title-page.

"'What is it?' I asked, speaking very low.

"'Nothing very precious,' he replied. 'An imperfect volume of Shakespeare, published in Glasgow.'

"One of the tapestries from the treasuries of the church, suspended just in front of us, represented an historical scene—King John, called 'Lackland,' and Philip Augustus. Nodier fingered the leaves of the book some minutes, then called my attention to the tapestry.

"'Do you see that tapestry?'

"'Yes.'

"'Do you know what it represents?'

"'No.'

"'John Lackland.'

"'Well?'

"'John Lackland is also in this book.'

"Indeed, the volume, at a place where the corner of a page was turned down, contained 'King John.'

"M. Hémonin turned to Nodier:

"'I paid six sous for that book,' he said."

That evening the friends, declining an invitation to a ball at the house of the British Ambassador, the Duke of Northumberland, stayed at home, and having nothing else to do, read aloud from the volume which had come into their hands through this curious chance. That apparently trivial incident, however, was the potent cause which introduced new and far-reaching influences into French literature; for before the reading was finished that night, the spirit of the bright new star just rising above the horizon of France was touched and vivified by the soul of the great English bard, who thenceforward exercised a powerful sway over his mind and his literary ideals, so that we may justly regard "Hernani" (which was acted in 1830) and the literary revolution it wrought, as one of the first fruits of this incident. Victor Hugo goes on to tell of how he and Nodier began their incursion into the new realm of the real Shakespeare. Nodier understood English, and, reading in his usual high voice, translated as he went on. In the intervals, while he was resting, Hugo read aloud from the Spanish of the *Romancero*, translating it into French. He says:

"We compared the English book with the Castilian book; we confronted the dramatic poet with the epic. Each vaunted the merits of his own volume. Nodier rendered from Shakespeare what he could read in English, and I from the *Romancero* what I could read in Spanish. We brought the characters into court—he the bastard Falconbridge, I the bastard Mudarra. And little by little, in our dispute, we vanquished each other, and enthusiasm for the *Romancero* overcame Nodier, while admiration for Shakespeare overcame me.

"We had auditors, too—for in a little provincial town, on the day of a coronation, when one does not go to the ball, one passes the evening as best one can—and finally there came to be a little circle of listeners. There was an academician, M. Roger; a man of letters, M. d'Eckstein; M. de Marcellus, a friend and country neighbor of my father, who laughed at his royalistic feeling and at mine; the good old Marquis d'Herbouville, and M. Hémonin, donor of the book which had cost six sous.

"'It wasn't worth it!' exclaimed M. Roger.

"The conversation developed into a discussion. We sat in judgment upon 'King John.' M. de Marcellus pronounced the assassination of Prince Arthur improbable. Another told him it was historical. He resigned himself with difficulty; for kings to murder one another—that was impossible. To M. de Marcellus, the murder of kings commenced on the 21st of January. Regicide was a synonym for the year '93. To kill a king was a thing unheard of except for 'the populace,' who alone were capable of such a monstrosity. No king but Louis XVI. had ever been violently put to death. He reluctantly admitted, later, that Charles I. was another. That was also the populace. The rest was all fiction and demagogic calumny."

And so they passed on to the details of the drama, to the situations, scenes, and *dramatis personæ*, taking different sides, and bringing out hidden meanings in character and dramatic action. Hugo continues:

"This revelation of Shakespeare deeply moved me. I found him great. 'King John' is not a masterpiece, but certain of its scenes are elevated and powerful, and in the motherhood of *Constance* there is a vision of genius.

"The two books, open and face down, rested on the table. The

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company had ceased to read in order to jest. Nodier at last was silent like myself. We were beaten. The company broke up and the last burst of raillery had ceased. We were left alone, Nodier and I, pensive, and reflecting upon the great works that had been revealed to us, and astonished that the intellectual education of civilized nations and even our own had advanced no further than this.

"Finally Nodier broke the silence. I remember that he sighed. He said to me:

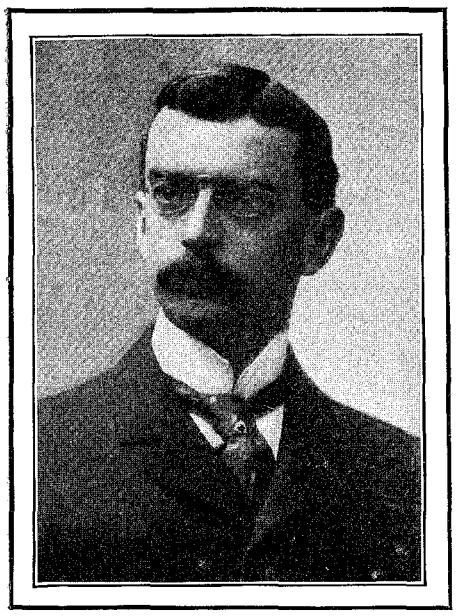
"'People forget the *Romancero!*'

"I replied to him:

"'And they *rail* at Shakespeare!'"—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MORE CHANGES AT THE HARPERS.

THE former plans made by Messrs. Harper & Brothers for an alliance with the Doubleday & McClure Company have been set aside by new developments which have attracted general interest among bookmen. According to an interview in the New York *Evening Post* (November 17), which is in substance the same as accounts in other leading New York papers, Mr. George B. McClellan Harvey, who for the past half year has been editor of *The North American Review*, has been elected president of the house of Harper & Brothers, and a new policy is foreshadowed. Altho only thirty-five, Colonel Harvey has already had a brilliant career as a business man and a journalist. Besides holding high editorial positions on the New York *World* and the Newark *Journal*, he has made himself widely known by his management of one of the Staten Island electric railway systems, and by similar enterprises at Long Branch, Asbury Park, and Havana. It is said that in his six months' incumbency as editor of *The North American Review* that journal has doubled in circulation. Some of the facts relative to this change of policy are thus stated in the New York *Times* (November 17), in the course of an interview with Mr. J. Henry Harper:



COL. G. B. M. HARVEY.

"The organization as completed at the meeting was as follows: President, G. B. M. Harvey; first vice-president, John W. Harper; second vice-president, J. Henry Harper; third vice-president, Clarence W. McIlvaine; secretary, James Thorne Harper; treasurer, Henry S. Harper, and directors, in addition to the officers above named, H. R. Harper and James Harper.

"The changes consist of the substitution of Mr. Harvey as president in place of John W. Harper, who becomes first vice-president, and the retirement of John Harper, whose condition of health renders it impossible for him to attend to business.

"'The stockholders of our company,' Mr. Harper added, 'have felt for some time the desirability of obtaining as the active head of our company a strong, energetic man, who, while having experience, should also be young enough to handle effectively a large organization.' . . . . . .

"Mr. Harper declined to state the terms under which Mr. Harvey becomes the head of Harper & Brothers. It is said, however, that shareholders sold a large block of stock, which was appraised some time ago at $237 a share, to Mr. Harvey at $150 per share. The exact amount of stock purchased by him could not be ascertained, but was said to be in the vicinity of $1,000,000 par value.

"It was reported some months ago that a consolidation of Harper & Brothers and Doubleday & McClure had been practically completed. It was found, however, when the time came to put the suggested consolidation into effect that the lines of publication of the respective companies differed, so widely that the plan was impracticable. It was abandoned with the consent of Mr. McClure as soon as several members of Harper & Brothers, who were not within reach at the time of the negotiations, returned to the city."

From the side of Mr. S. S. McClure the following statement was made in *The Commercial Advertiser:*

"It is a fact that Mr. S. S. McClure and his associates—Messrs. Phillips, Brady, and Doubleday — withdrew from Harper & Brothers about a week ago. It is stated that the agreement made last summer looking toward an alliance was a conditional one, and left many plans open for later arrangement.

"Mr. McClure and his associates found it impossible to adjust some of the questions left open by the preliminary arrangement, and withdrew a week ago. It is needless to say that this action is the result of the mutual and friendly conclusion of both parties. It is suggested in the papers this morning that some of the Messrs. Harper disapproved of the preliminary arrangements last summer. This is a mistake; every member of both firms was acquainted with the conditions of the arrangement before it was made. There was a cordial and friendly spirit existing between the parties to the agreement, and there has been no change in their friendly relations.

"Mr. McClure and his associates will carry out the plans for an encyclopedia and other enterprises which Mr. McClure had hoped to undertake in connection with Harper & Brothers. The plan for the encyclopedia was entered upon by Mr. McClure some months before the Harper negotiations arose, and when Mr. McClure withdrew from Harper & Brothers, Mr. Page, who had been secured by Mr. McClure to edit the encyclopedia, joined the S. S. McClure Company, and will carry on the development of the encyclopedia."

THE FIRST LITERARY REVIEW.

THE first literary review ever published was the *Journal des Sçavans*, established in Paris toward the close of the seventeenth century, in the reign of Louis XIV. Up to that time scholars relied, for their information concerning new works, upon the annual catalogs printed at the chief book marts, and upon correspondence among themselves. A writer in *The Home Journal*—Miss F. E. Barnett—gives some particulars of this review and of its founder, Denis de Sallo, a scholar who had turned from the pursuit of the law to literary studies. Says Miss Barnett:

"De Sallo had the excellent habit of making extracts which he found worthy of being preserved from the books he read, and in this way collected such a quantity of material that he could write an article on almost any subject proposed to him at a moment's notice. Not only did he himself make extracts, but he employed a number of copyists to help him. Camusat saw these records and admired the good arrangement and praised its usefulness. M. de Sallo found in these extracts, which he called his 'pot-pourri,' the material for his memoirs which the king or Colbert had asked him to write. In his zeal for the advancement of literature, he wanted others to enjoy the benefit of his labors, and in this way conceived the idea of the *Journal des Sçavans*, which should accomplish for the literary world what *The Gazette*, the first journal worthy of the name, was doing for the political world.

"The enterprise of M. de Sallo, which to-day seems to us so simple, had in his time all the importance of a discovery. It was also accompanied by unanimous applause; one is astonished even that they went so far as the middle of the seventeenth century without devising a project so useful in hastening the progress of science. During the first year it had many imitators and translators in all parts of Europe."

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The first issue was published on Monday, January 5, 1665, by Jean Cusson, Rue Saint Jacques, in Paris, and was thereafter published weekly in duodecimo form, each number containing from twelve to sixteen pages. The book which had the great distinction of being the very first one ever reviewed was an edition of the works of Vitensius and Vigilus Tapsensis, African bishops of the fifth century, by Father Chiflet, a Jesuit. In addition to book reviews, the magazine contained political memoirs, medical consultations, theological discussions, on all kinds of questions of physics and astronomy; while religious controversies were not forgotten.

The authors of that day were disposed to resent De Sallo's criticisms; but he could probably have survived their animosity. A more formidable enemy appeared in the Inquisition at Rome, and it was the religious question which proved the most difficult to deal with. De Sallo was a Gallican in church politics, and his defense of De Marca's famous book, "De Concordantia Sacerdotii et Imperii," and of another Gallican treatise by De Launay caused the suppression of the *Journal des Sçavans* by order of the Sacred Congregation of the Index on March 30, 1665. The blow, which even Colbert was unable to avert, affected De Sallo so profoundly as to result in his death soon after. But the *Journal des Sçavans* was very shortly revived, and has passed through many vicissitudes triumphantly to the present day.

DECAY OF LITERARY ALLUSION.

IT has been remarked more than once how much more important a part literary recollection and quotation played a generation or two ago than they play at present. The gentlemen of the old school not only had read Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Byron, Lamb, Wordsworth; they relished allusions to those writers and illustrated their conversation with frequent apt and striking quotations from them; neither were they afraid of the implication of pedantry if they occasionally used a Latin phrase or spoke of some name great in the annals of Greece or Rome. As *The Nation* (November 16) remarks, "there rested in their minds, as at once a pleasant background for thought and a help to refined expression, an orderly mass of literary reminiscence; and they carried it, not as a burden, but as a natural accompaniment of a cultivated taste." Yet in our present conception of culture, all this has been very largely changed. Says the writer:

"If there is one thing in the way of distinctively intellectual acquisition which educated youth of the present day conspicuously lack, it is a knowledge of literature. To be sure, boys and girls who now fit for college have to read with some care a few English classics, and pass examinations on their subject-matter; but they rarely give evidence of having read much of anything else. Reference to the prominent characters or striking situations sketched by such makers of English as Thackeray, Scott, and George Eliot often evokes no answering sign of recognition. The wealth of allusion drawn from Greek and Roman authors is rapidly disappearing; only a pedant dares quote Virgil, and only a specialist knows enough of Virgil to quote. The heroes and heroines of modern novels, deeply versed as they are in science, and philanthropy, and psychology, are rarely found talking about literature. With the market flooded with inexpensive reprints, and with elaborate critical editions of nearly every 'classic' under the sun, the knowledge of the great writings of former times, even among persons apparently most likely to have it, seems to be in inverse proportion to the ease of obtaining it. Literary interest of a certain sort we have, undoubtedly; but it is only too obvious that much that passes under that name makes no vital connection with the literary life of the past."

One striking and serious manifestation of this change is the present widespread ignorance of the English Bible—not so much among those professedly religious as among people who are ranked as the cultivated class: "Among writers and speakers, the use of its superb sentences tends more and more to be restricted to purposes of hortatory effect. The greatest literary landmark of the English tongue threatens to become unknown or else to be looked upon as of antiquarian rather than present worth."

The Nation finds it not easy to assign reasons for this decay of literary knowledge and allusion, but thinks that it may partly be attributed to the absorbing interest in physical science, the growth of the great magazines, and the use of literature for philological purposes, which "has turned into a dead body what was once a living soul."

IS PERPETUAL COPYRIGHT DESIRABLE?

THE movement to which we have already referred (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, September 3) for effecting a change in the present limitation of copyright does not meet with the unanimous support of American authors and publishers. *The Literary World* (October 28) prints a number of letters which apparently indicate that the preponderance of opinion is against perpetual copyright privileges, tho not against some extension of the present rather short limitation. Mr. Thomas Wentworth Higginson writes thus:

"I am sorry to say that I have never been quite convinced of the propriety of perpetual copyright. It still seems to me that the argument against perpetual patent rights applies to this higher form of patent; the argument based, namely, on the needs of the public and on the debt owed by every inventor to the community which has educated him; and also on the pleasurable quality of all inventive or literary work itself. I never could see why a copyright should be legally provided in two successive instalments instead of once for all; and the total period ought perhaps to be somewhat lengthened; but it is not clear to me that more than this is to be desired."

Mr. William Coolidge Lane takes a similar view:

"The claim for perpetual copyright presents an appearance of abstract justice that is attractive, but would, I suspect, in practise, work some injury to the interests of learning and letters, be inconvenient in application, and not of much real value to the author. The present term of forty-two years more than covers the life of most books. The few which are likely to be reissued after that period are mainly of two classes, books of reference and books of pure literature which have become classic and attained a kind of immortality.

"Books of the first class need no protection, for every such work, to retain its value, requires extensive revision at intervals far under forty-two years, and every new issue establishes a fresh claim to copyright.

"In the case of the second class the claim certainly has stronger reasons in its favor, but it is plainly for the public advantage that literature of permanent value—that which has taken its place and should have its place as part of the common intellectual possession—should be reproduced as freely and distributed as widely as possible. A perpetual copyright could not fail to hamper the republication of such work. This might, it is true, prevent the issue of incorrect and incomplete reprints, but, on the whole, it would diminish the frequency and variety of editions, increase their cost, and discourage fresh editing and annotation. Such disadvantages would increase from year to year, while the justice of the protection would appeal less and less to the public conscience."

Mr. George H. Mifflin, of Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., says:

"The proposition to make copyright perpetual is, to my mind, so impracticable as to render its consideration useless. The present copyright law, however, seems to me to require radical amendment. Its defects are three in number, as follows:

"1. It requires several conditions with which an author must comply before he can gain a legal title to the literary product of his mind, and failure to comply with any one of them prevents his gaining such a title.

"2. The needless requirement of a renewal at the end of twenty-

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eight years. Evidently the granting of fourteen additional years concedes the justice of copyright running forty-two years—why should it not be granted in one unbroken term?

"3. The requirement of renewal, and the restriction of the right of renewal to the author's immediate family, may work great injury to any person to whom he has assigned a valuable copyright, if he die before the expiration of the twenty-eight years and leave no wife or child who can renew the copyright.

"A change which would render our law somewhat like the English law of copyright seems to me very desirable. Let there be no difficult, vexatious, and possibly unjust conditions; let there be a single term of (say) fifty years, and during the lifetime of an author if he shall outlive the fifty years."

Mr. George Haven Putnam says in part:

"It is my belief that such perpetual control of literary productions would not prove of sufficient advantage to the producers of literature to offset the serious detriment to the community. This is the judgment that has been arrived at by the legislators who have framed the copyright laws of the civilized states of the world, in connection with which laws the question of perpetual copyright has, during the past century, received a very thorough discussion. . . . . .

"The American term of copyright is shorter than that now in force in any one of the literature-producing states of the world, and it ought assuredly to be lengthened. It is my judgment, however, that the prospects of securing the legislation required to extend the term to that of Germany, life and thirty years, will be materially hampered if our legislators should now be confused with discussions concerning the inherent right of an author to ownership in perpetuity."

Only two defenders of perpetual copyright appear among the writers quoted by *The Literary World*. Florence Earle Coates says:

"I am unable to see why copyright should not be perpetual. Property in thought is as real as property in land or money. I once discussed the subject with a company of smart criminals within prison walls. They denied that the fruits of the mind were ever real property, but they brought forward no satisfactory argument to substantiate their denial."

"THE OLDEST POEM IN THE WORLD."

THE progress of archeological research in Egypt during recent years has been so rapid and so far beyond the most sanguine expectations of the *savants* of a quarter of a century ago that the statement is commonly made to-day that the life, manners, and society of Thebes in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries before the Christian era are better known to us than are those of English cities in Anglo-Saxon times. The district surrounding Heracleapolis (now Ahnas-el-Medineh) has proved especially rich in finds of the period of the twelfth dynasty (B.C. 2778–2556). Here several of the Pharaohs of this era had their summer residence, and a number of their pyramids and other monuments render the district of special interest to archeologists. In the course of his explorations near the pyramid at Illahun in 1888–90, Professor Petrie found the remains of the extensive town occupied by the workmen employed in building the pyramid of Usertesen II. In the record hall of this town were discovered a large number of papyri, most of them official documents relating to the building, accounts of money, food, and provisions issued to the men, census figures, etc., which in spite of their dryness are full of details of the greatest value to the student of Egyptian history. Scattered among them were found works of another nature—upon general medicine, obstetrics, veterinary surgery, and mathematics. But most interesting of all is a royal ode or hymn of welcome addressed to Usertesen III. by his subjects. A writer in the London *Standard* thus tells of this important specimen of early literature, which antedates by almost two millenniums the Homeric poems, and is more than fifteen centuries older than the earliest books of the Hebrew sacred canon:

"After long and patient work these broken and torn fragments have been arranged, and are now published with autotype reproductions, transcripts, and partial translations by F. Llewellyn Griffith. The poem to Usertesen III. is written in a fine, bold, hieratic hand upon a papyrus measuring 46 inches in length and 12 in width, and consisted, when complete, of six stanzas of 10 lines each. Its value lies in its being certainly the oldest poem in the world, nearly fifteen centuries before the time of Moses; and also in the wonderful way in which it describes, in most figurative language, the great work that the king had done in the expansion of the Egyptian empire. To understand the historical references we must glance briefly at the military achievements of the kings of this dynasty. The great source of trouble to Egypt prior to the rise of the Theban dynasties was the Nubian invasions from the Sudan. Usertesen I. fixed the military frontier at Bohani, opposite Wady Halfa, and a century later Usertesen III. enlarged this stronghold, and set up an inscription in which he says: 'Here is the southern boundary fixed in the year eight, in order that none of the black people may cross it except for trade.' Far beyond this line the Egyptian troops marched, certainly as far as Dongola, where outposts were established; and the making of Greater Egypt was realized. The conquest of Khartoum was but a fulfilment of the policy of Usertesen III., who discerned centuries ago that the natural frontier of Egypt was the meeting-place of the two Niles. How this policy was received in Egypt we see in this ancient address.

"Thus the first stanza reads, quoting a few lines:

Homage to thee, our Horus, divine of beings,
Protecting the land and widening its boundaries.
Enclosing the two lands within the compass of his hands, and seizing the nations in his grasp.
The tongue of his Majesty bindeth Nubia, his utterances put to flight the Bedouin.
Sole one of youthful vigor, guarding his frontier; suffering not his subjects to faint; but causing all the people to repose until daylight.
As to his trained youth, in their slumbers, his heart (mind) is their protection.
His decrees have formed his boundaries; his word maketh strong the two regions.

The next three stanzas are more poetic, as each line in the stanza often commences with the same initial phrase. In other Egyptian poems the refrain is common, but the initial phrase is rare. This method is used, however, as Mr. Griffith points out, in the poetic stela of Thothmes III. at Karnak.

"The beneficent character of the king's rule, and his fatherly attention to all, form the subject of the second stanza, which has for its initial phrase the words, 'Twice joyful are':

Twice joyful are the gods; thou hast established their offerings.
Twice joyful are thy forefathers; thou hast increased their portions.
Twice joyful is Egypt in thy strong arm; thou hast protected the ancient régime.
Twice joyful are the people in thy policy; thy mighty spirit hath taken upon itself their welfare.
Twice joyful are thy paid young troops; thou has made them to prosper.
Twice joyful are thy veterans; thou hast made them to renew their youth.

The last two phrases are of interest, as they show the Egyptian military system of paid troops—in many cases, as we know from the inscription of Uni, troops from the conquered Sudan, who formed then, as now, the backbone of the Egyptian army. They were paid, and the older men past service were rewarded with grants of land. The third stanza relates to the general happiness of the land under the protecting rule of the king:

Twice great is the lord of his city; he is, as it were, a dike damming the stream in its water floods.

"Here we have, no doubt, a reference to the reclaiming of the Fayoum:

Twice great is the lord of his city; he is, as it were, a cool shelter, letting every man repose unto daylight.
Twice great is the lord of his city; he is, as it were, an asylum; delivering the frightened one from his enemy.
Twice great is the lord of his city; he is, as it were, a verdant shade and cool place in the time of harvest.
Twice great is the lord of his city; he is, as it were, a corner warm and dry in time of winter.
Twice great is the lord of his city; he is as it were, a rock barring the blast in the time of tempest.

"The poetic similes of these last lines remind us of the Old Testament, and show how to the Egyptian poets, as to the Hebrew, nature was a storehouse of symbolism. The fourth and last complete stanza, which space will not allow us to quote in full, has for its initial phrase the words, 'He hath come.' A

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pretty phrase occurs in one line, 'He hath united the two lands, he hath joined the Reed to the Bee,' that is, Upper to Lower Egypt, the two hieroglyphic signs being played upon by the writer. We may quote the closing lines of this stanza:

He hath come; he hath made the people of Egypt to live; he hath destroyed its afflictions.
He hath come; he hath made men and women to live; and hath opened the throat (voice?) of the captives.
He hath come; we nurture one; we bury our aged ones (in peace).

"Such is the poetic address which welcomed the victorious Pharaoh to his city over forty-five centuries ago. It is a wonderful type of the pure Egyptian literature, untainted by foreign influence, and may be classed with such beautiful works as the 'Maxims of Phtah-hetep,' or the 'Instructions of Amen-em-hat.' As, after the Norman conquest, Gallicisms spoiled the simplicity of Anglo-Saxon literature, so the contact with Asia introduced foreign words and foreign styles of composition, which detracted from the beauty of the old Egyptian style."

POE COMING TO HIS KINGDOM.

"TO one who tries to study literature in the large, it seems as if we were just now passing through one of those irritating transition periods in which all standards are lowered or confused, in which conglomeration reigns, taste gets freaky or fantastical, and true art hides her head or goes to sleep," so writes Mr. Henry Austin in *The Dial* (November 1). Yet the present period has its cheering omens too, he thinks, and one of the most important of these is the final rendering of complete literary justice to Edgar Allan Poe in the land of his birth. Europe has long ranked him as the greatest of American writers, but in his own country he was called "that jingle-man" by Emerson, while Lowell spoke of him as "three fifths genius and two fifths fudge." Says Mr. Austin:

"When the University of Virginia, the alma mater from which he was not expelled, and where he was never censured even for alleged vices then common among the sons of Virginian gentry, honored his memory, but chiefly itself, by celebrating on October 7 the fiftieth anniversary of his untimely death, and by unveiling, with fitting ceremonies of prayer, poem, and address, a fine bust by an excellent sculptor, this long-delayed rendition of poetic justice, this formal recognition in America of his world-wide fame and genius, was made complete. . . . . .

"But more convincing still as to Poe's position at the present day were the letters which arrived from all parts of the country, in which many of the most justly distinguished men and women of the literary craft paid cordial tribute to the great man whom his own day and generation kept close on the brink of starvation and stimulated to seek solace in those occasional excesses to which, most unfortunately, he appears to have had a terrible prenatal bias. It was clear from those letters, too, that not only has the silly old sectional animosity, at the bottom of so much general mischief and operant to a considerable degree against Poe in his life, entirely vanished, but that an almost absolute unanimity of opinion as to his literary merits has come in the literary world. Few names of any importance or promise of permanence were missing from the illustrious list of those whose letters hailed Poe as America's most illustrious writer and most luminous literary influence. Thus, indeed, was verified by example Professor Minto's apt dictum years ago: 'The feelings to which Poe appeals are simple but universal, and he appeals to them with a force that has never been surpassed.' Mr. Minto should have written 'power' instead of 'force.' The distinction is infinite, tho fine, and was never more applicable than in the case of Poe's writings. There is no blare of trumpets, no firing of rockets, in the main and mass of Poe's work. Nearly all are developed in the calm of a sure elemental energy. Even his 'pot-boilers' bear traces of this power and of that splendid conscientiousness on which Mr. Mabie did not harp any too much."

After alluding to the "vast amount of twaddle" which has been circulated about Poe's personal character, habits, and alleged lack of moral perceptions, and remarking that it is not worth while keeping such misconception alive by dignifying it with serious attention, Mr. Austin concludes:

"There has been, it seems to me, considerable mischief done to Poe and the cause of truth by the overzeal of some of his champions. The medial sound fact of this whole matter appears to be that Poe, tho an almost perfect artist, scarcely deserved that any man should pray to him every morning as Baudelaire used to do; that Poe, tho possessed of many winning and gracious attributes when sane, did some dreadful and dreadfully strange things when not in his sober senses; that as he happened to be a man of genius and temperament combative at all times, his flaws and failings, which would have passed comparatively unnoticed in an ordinary person, got blazoned broadcast to the world."

The Novels of 1899.—Prof. Harry Thurston Peck thinks that a critical study of the fiction published during the year just closing will lead one to reverse, or at least to readjust, the order of merit as registered by the test of comparative sales. He thinks that of the six most popular books only one—or at most two—is likely to be read by any one in a year from now. He says (in *The Independent*, November 23):

"One may serenely disregard the test that is commercial and misleading, and confine oneself to a consideration of just how far each of them approximates in merit to those works of genius which, in the different departments of pure fiction, afford us an accepted and enduring standard of comparison.

"If we extend the term 'novel' so as to let it include collections of short stories, I should say that there is just one work of fiction belonging to the present year which is equal to the very best in its own class; and this is Mrs. Edith Wharton's 'Greater Inclination.' The class which it represents has to do with the psychological study of social conditions and of the problems that arise in the more intimate relations of men and women of the world. . . . Such perfect literary workmanship is seldom seen in books that are written in the English language; and Mrs. Wharton's pages never lose their fascination even tho they may be read a score of times. The book has met with much appreciation from the critical portion of the public; a widely popular success it could not have; for its beauties and felicities, which give so much pure joy to the discriminating, are far too delicate and subtle for the perception of the unenlightened. . . . . .

"Three novels have run neck and neck in the race for popular favor. These are Caskoden's 'When Knighthood Was in Flower,' Mr. Winston Churchill's 'Richard Carvel,' and Mr. Ford's 'Janice Meredith.' It is rather difficult to decide upon the relative merit of each. 'When Knighthood Was in Flower' moves swiftly and surely along to its finish, never dragging and never disappointing. 'Richard Carvel' is admirable and even distinguished in its style, tho some modern locutions occasionally filter through into the author's assumed eighteenth-century style, and the first half of the novel is undeniably too slow in its development. Mr. Ford's 'Janice Meredith' is well-knit and firmly compacted, and its narrative carries one along easily and surely, tho the style is sometimes slipshod and unfinished. The popularity of all three of these books has been very great and shows a healthy tone in the public mind. . . . . .

"If I were asked to group the best six novels of the year in the order of their true importance from a literary point of view, I should set down the list as follows:

"1. The Greater Inclination. By Edith Wharton.
"2. David Harum. By E. N. Westcott.
"3. The Maternity of Harriott Wicken. By Mrs. Dudeney.
"4. Richard Carvel. By Winston Churchill.
"5. The Market Place. By Harold Frederic.
"6. When Knighthood Was in Flower. By Edwin Caskoden."

A VERY interesting new development in wood-carving has recently attracted notice in New York. It consists in relief work upon a species of fungi which grows upon oak- and maple-trees. Great care has to be exercised in removing and drying the fungi so as to preserve the delicate white surface; and the light and shades of the bas-relief are attained by a careful manipulation of the surface and of the dark interior. The process requires great persistence and skill, but when successful presents a species of art effect which is wholly new and unique. Some very exquisite specimens of carved fungi, ranging in size from four inches to two feet in diameter, comprising some surprisingly perfect forest scenes, war groups, and other *genre* effects worked out in black and white, are on exhibition at the various art exchanges in New York and at Brentano's. The inventor and developer of the process is Miss I. M. Musselman, of Somerset, Pa., an artist who received much of her technical training in the art schools of Pittsburg and Philadelphia.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

A FRENCH ESTIMATE OF EDISON.

EMILE GAUTIER, the editor of *La Science Française* devotes a signed leading article (November 3) to an estimate of Thomas A. Edison. From this we learn that in France there is a popular impression that Edison personally invented about everything that makes for modern progress, especially in electricity. M. Gautier strives to correct this idea, and in doing so he has gone rather far in depreciating Edison as an inventor, but credits him with almost superhuman powers as an organizer and exploiter. We translate below the principal paragraphs of Gautier's article. He writes:

"'Edison is a genius. What do I say? He is Genius itself (with a big G), the Only, the True; he is the Wonder-worker, the Master of masters, the greatest and most glorious figure in all the history of science.'

"I know well that this is the legend that has been going the rounds of the earth for the last fifteen or twenty years. But I may be pardoned for not sharing this enthusiasm. . . . . .

"Certainly I am far from contesting the superior intellect—the genius even, if that pleases his devotees better—of Edison, any more than I should deny the importance of the rôle that he has played and the services that he has rendered. I simply maintain that they are not worth so much incense and so many laurels, and that his genius (since genius it is) is of an order quite different from that which is attributed to him."

To the eyes of the common herd, continues M. Gautier, Edison has appeared as the inventor *par excellence*, or rather as Invention made flesh. Without Edison electricity would be yet in its infancy. No matter what miracle, no matter what enormity—it is sufficient for Edison to be in it, for universal suffrage to believe in it blindly. Hurrah for the wizard! The writer continues:

"The truth is slightly different.

"Doubtless Edison has had something to do with the prodigious evolution which, during the past twenty-five years, has transfigured the face of the world, the conditions of work, our customs, and our habits—in short, our whole civilization. But altho he has contributed more and better than others to this fertile evolution, it is much less as an inventor or investigator than as a man of affairs—a business man.

"From this point of view (which is neither to be misconstrued nor despised), Edison defies all competition. Having incomparable business ability, and an appreciation of public feeling that amounts to genius, he knew how to foresee, by a kind of divination, the formidable movement that was about to revolutionize the world. Then, having thrown himself into the torrent, he knew how to direct it for the best interests of his country, his associates, and himself. Thanks to the legend that represents him as a kind of omnipotent wizard, he has succeeded in getting into his hands, during the past quarter of a century, not only in America, but elsewhere, the threads of most of the great industrial businesses, and particularly of the electrical industries, to which, it must be acknowledged, his intervention has been able to give a marvelous impulse.

"In this line Edison has been really an incomparable factor in modern progress, and it is not improbable that numerous feats, really performed by less adroit or less fortunate rivals, have added to the prestige of this astonishing stage-manager. . . . . .

"To sum up, Edison's work is not without merit. Quite the contrary. It is the work of a yeast that has leavened the dough of science. It is the work of a Barnum of colossal enterprise. It is the work of a breeder of inventions. But it is not, properly speaking, the work of a creator.

"We see attributed to Edison the paternity of more or less likely chimeras, such as the photography of thought, the industrial utilization of wave force, the cure of blindness by the X rays, the construction of electrical engines of war and of other infernal machines that terrorize only innocent minds. We should not be surprised to find him mixed up in the artificial gold business with Dr. Emmons, and we await to hear that Tripler, the man who pretends that he has achieved perpetual motion by means of liquid air, has obtained the use of his name. Any other than Edison would hazard his reputation by connection with such projects; he, sustained by the myth of his omniscience and omnipotence, would only gain prestige and popularity.

"He always marches to glory in some one else's shoes. No matter what may be said or believed, he did not invent the telephone, nor incandescent electric lighting, nor wireless telegraphy, not even the phonograph.

"We may recall, in closing, that we had among ourselves a man of the same kind and of exactly similar career, in a measure. I mean Cornelius Herz, to whom, tho he personally invented nothing, we owe in great part the development of the electrical industries in France, and who—leaving out Panama, politics, and disease—was of the timber to make a European Edison."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOW DOES THE SENSE OF SMELL ACT?

WHAT are the physical processes that underlie the sense of smell? This particular sense is probably less understood than any of those that are regarded as higher in rank. We can study the functions of the lenses of the eye, and of the retina, in any book on physiological optics; but a description of the processes that accompany the perception of an odor is not so easily found. Experiments and investigations on the subject are all very recent, and are contained for the most part in detached papers. In a recent address before the American Pharmaceutical Association, Dr. W. C. Alpers, in discussing "Odor Standards," found it necessary to go over a good deal of this ground, and that part of the address in which he does this we quote below from an account in *Merck's Report* (November). Says Dr. Alpers:

"We all know that the irregular cavities that form the nasal fossæ are divided into a number of chambers and lined by the Schneiderian membrane. This membrane contains glands which secrete mucus for the purpose of keeping the membrane constantly moist, and a number of epithelial cells of various kinds. Whenever odorous particles are present in the inspired air, they are carried by the suction of the expanding lungs through the lower nasal chambers into the upper chambers, where they fall on the olfactory epithelium and produce sensory impulses, which, communicated to the brain by means of the olfactory nerves, give rise to a sensation of smell. The question that interests us in this physiological function is, how are these impulses caused and what relation exists between the volatile substance and the serum secreted by the glands? For it is well known that without this serum no impression on the nerve is made. If the mere shock of a volatile substance on the nerve-ends would produce the sensation, there could be no variety of odors, and the introduction of a substance of greater aggregation than a gas, a liquid, or even a solid particle of dust, would also produce this sensation. Again, if the various glands and membranes in the nasal cavity are removed or their functions arrested by some injury or disease, there is no smell, showing that the nerve alone does not allow us smell. Nor are the glands, by their mere presence, productive of the sensation; they must perform a certain function, namely, the secretion of the serum which covers the cup-shaped ends of the nerves. This secretion, too, must go on continuously, as can be shown by a simple experiment. When a volatile substance dissolved in water—for instance an aqueous solution of an ethereal oil—is brought into the nostrils and kept there, by reclining the head, it will first produce the sensation, but the odor will soon disappear, in spite of the presence of the odorous solution in the nostrils. The explanation for this is simple. The secretion on the nerve-ends is affected by the volatile substance, but as no new serum can take the place of the one that has been acted upon on account of the pressure of the liquid on the membranes, the sensation naturally ceases, to begin again after the liquid has been removed and a new serum secreted by the glands."

It has been suggested, Dr. Alpers tells us, that the sensation may be due to the impulse given to secretion by the mere touch of a peculiarly constructed molecule, but he considers this theory untenable, for it presupposes an impossibly complex molecular

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structure for the serum. The sensation must, therefore, be due to actual chemical action, and this the author regards as the true theory. It has been demonstrated, he thinks, by the experiments of Dr. Wolff, of Dresden, on the serum of the bee. Says Dr. Albers:

"He found the serum to consist of a clear liquid, in which a great number of white oil-like globules floated, resembling in all appearances, except color, the blood with its corpuscles. All efforts to find a preserving liquid for this secretion in order to prepare it for microscopical examination failed, for as soon as it was brought into contact with any chemical or solution an instantaneous change would occur. The addition of water alone would retard the decomposition long enough to allow a quick microscopical examination, altho the floating corpuscles would gradually swell and then burst, following the laws of osmosis. But by patient and careful experiments, in which, as Dr. Wolff states, thousands of bees lost their lives, he positively proved that a chemical change takes place. If a small object dipped into a volatile liquid be brought near the drop of serum under the microscope a sudden motion of the corpuscles is observed, varying with the nature of the volatile substance. A molecule of the vapor preceding the object evidently entered the liquid and produced the change. The small globules gradually take a different color, mostly gray or brown; they become wrinkled and sometimes expand, until they suddenly disintegrate and disappear. Ammonia gas seemed to have the strongest influence, the globules assuming a violent motion even at a considerable distance of the gas, and by sudden approach disappearing as if by magic. Dr. Wolff also observed that when the effect of a slowly acting substance, for instance, a but slightly smelling oil, was interrupted by withdrawing the substance before the globules had disappeared and then ammonia vapor brought into proximity with great care, the motion and behavior of the corpuscles were different than when ammonia had acted on them at first. The partial decomposition of the first substance changed therefore the influence of the ammonia gas, showing that a chemical change had taken place. No other explanation for the behavior of the corpuscles under the influence of vapors can be given. Even should there still exist any doubt that the process in man is similar to that in the bee, another proof of the chemical reaction in the serum of the nose can be brought forth by different experiments and methods of reasoning."

There are, we are told by the doctor, numerous points that still need clearing up, but it seems certain that we smell by means of chemical action between the odorous substance and the serum secreted by the glands of the nose.

Vanilla as a Poison.—Ordinary vanilla extract is poisonous in some cases, we are told by *The British Medical Journal*. It says: "A certain fearful interest attaches to accounts of poisoning by substances in common use, and the interest becomes almost painful when we learn how difficult it is to provide against its occurrence. Vanilla is a case in point. Fortunately, thanks apparently more to luck than anything else, cases of poisoning from this cause are rare. Nineteen persons, one of whom subsequently died, suffered severely, Wassermann tells us, from the effects of eating some vanilla 'cream.' This was composed of milk, eggs, sugar, and flavored with vanillin (the commercial article prepared from coniferin). The dish had been cooked in the evening and allowed to stand, uncovered, in the dining-room till noon next day. Investigation showed that the eggs and sugar were good, that the milk alone was harmless, and that the vanillin was pure. The fact that the cook and landlady, who had merely tasted the dish, had also become seriously ill, suggested the idea that the poisonous agent might have undergone further development after being swallowed—that is, that it was bacterial. Wassermann boiled three flasks containing respectively plain milk, milk flavored with vanillin, and a solution of vanillin in water, then let them stand eighteen hours at a temperature of 37° C. (98.6° F.). Some of the contents of each flask were injected into mice. The milk flavored with vanillin was poisonous, the other two harmless."

THE INVENTOR OF THE LINOTYPE MACHINE.

ON October 28 died Ottmar Mergenthaler, whose services to the art of printing are regarded by some authorities as second only to those of Guttenberg, the inventor of movable type. The linotype machine, whose work has so largely superseded that of the ordinary compositor, is the child of Mergenthaler's brain. It is, as every one knows, a device whereby its operator casts, in type-metal, a whole line of letters at once, whence the name. Tho not strictly a type-setting machine, it is often classed with

OTTMAR MERGENTHALER.
Courtesy of *American Machinist*.

such machines, since the result achieved by it is the same. The comparison of its inventor with the father of printing is made by *The American Machinist*, which justifies it thus:

"The invention of Guttenberg was comprised in a single idea, and one easy enough to work out when once thought of, that of the use of movable type; while that of Mergenthaler, altho also apparently easy to conceive, involved the invention and the construction, by tedious experiment and evolution, of one of the most ingenious and complicated machines that has ever been devised by man and brought to complete success. His invention has revolutionized the art of the printer, and has created a new line of construction for the machinist."

The same article in *The Machinist* furnishes the following data concerning Mergenthaler's life and work:

Ottmar Mergenthaler was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, May 10, 1854. He was apprenticed to a watch and clock-maker when fourteen years old. At the age of eighteen he came to the United States, and two years later was the leading workman in a shop in Washington, manufacturing electrical instruments and apparatus. This business was removed from Washington to Baltimore, and Mergenthaler went with it.

His attention seems to have been directed to typesetting and printing devices in 1876, when he was employed in attempts to perfect the "rotary lithographic" machine of Charles Moore, a West Virginian. This machine was intended to produce by typewriting a print that could be multiplied by the lithographic process. The machine was a failure, as was also a rotary electrotypic system, in which characters were impressed into papier-mache,

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and castings of type-metal were made by the usual stereotyping process.

To quote again:

"Mergenthaler went into business for himself in 1883, again considering the printing problem. He received financial aid from parties in Washington. A small machine was made which marked a great advance upon all previous attempts, but there was still an unsurmounted difficulty in the paper matrix, the speed at which the machine was to work precluding the possibility of drying the mold upon the type, as the conditions required. Only after this was struck the real keynote of the final linotype machine. To the inventor came the query: 'Why can I not stamp matrices into my type-bars and cast type-metal into them in the same machine?' Two machines were built on this new principle; and one was tested in the summer of 1884.

"Of the story of the successive improvements of the machine after this, and of its rapid adoption by the best printing-offices of this land and abroad, and of the change and improvement it has wrought in the production of printed matter, it is unnecessary to speak.

"In the summer of 1894, the number of machines either sold or on lease at the close of the business year was 1,500, and was then increasing rapidly."

THE DANGERS OF COMMUTING.

THE "commuter" and his daily journeys to and from the city have long been subjects for jesting in the comic papers, yet the army of those to live in the country and spend the day in the city—ten, fifteen, or twenty miles away—is daily increasing. This mode of life involves some features that are rather tragic than comic, according to a writer in *The British Medical Journal*. We all recognize the danger of "sprinting" for a train, but the life of a commuter involves other dangers that are as real, tho not so evident. Chief among these is the worry caused by unpunctual trains. Says the writer:

"Common experience affords to every one of us ample familiarity with the ordinary trials of the railway traveler. The rush to the station to catch the train, which may perchance be punctual; the weary wait on drafty platforms or in the stuffy waiting-rooms; the dilatory journey—all these add seriously to the labor of the day even in the best of times; but when the weather is cold and damp they are still more injurious, in that they are largely responsible for those 'colds,' as they are called, those conditions of depressed vitality which are the starting-points of most of the acute diseases from which men suffer, and from which the elderly an the feeble die. But outside and beyond these well-recognized evils, the unpunctuality of a railway service does a daily injury to those who depend upon it as a means of reaching their place of business by adding to that nervous strain which is the really hard part of a business life. An unpunctual railway, in fact, hits a business man in his most vulnerable spot. It is on the crisp activity of his mental processes that his livelihood depends, and the evil effect of the unpunctual morning train is not merely that it makes him arrive late at his office, but that it causes him to begin his work weary and annoyed. People talk about the 'nervous strain' of railway traveling, which many folk, even medical men, attribute to 'vibration' and high speed. Perhaps in long journeys in third-class carriages, where there is no rest for the head, vibration may have something to do with it; and as to high speed, if people persist in looking out of the windows, of course they suffer in consequence of the visual disturbances produced. But it is to be noted that experienced travelers always rush to quick trains, and especially to those that stop as seldom as possible. It is the worry of delay and the anxiety as to the time of arrival which is the great cause of nervous strain, that 'tired feeling' with which most suburban-dwelling business men arrive in London. This, repeated day after day, undoubtedly has an evil and wearing effect on the nervous system. But it does harm in other ways, which are less obvious, but none the less effective, and this especially to people beyond middle life. The two great causes of high arterial tension in such people are worry and chill, and the one great remedy—practically the only remedy which can be got away from home—is alcohol. Thus it happens that when the city man arrives from his suburban home, chilled, worried, and late, with the stopcocks on all his blood-vessels so that his brain is starved and he can not think, the craving for a 'nip' of alcohol—the only available vasodilator—becomes overwhelming, and this morning drug is too often the beginning of the end."

The Color of Gems.—The formation of the color of precious stones and other minerals is not easily explained in the majority of cases. According to a German technical paper quoted by *The Scientific American Supplement*, the dye-stuff contained in them may belong to an organic, as well as inorganic compound, but almost always its quantity is so small that it does not suffice for a chemical analysis. "In the mineral zircon, which is much used as a gem, especially under the name of hyacinth, the yellow, green, red, or brown color can be ascribed to the presence of nitrogen, and the same thing has been proven for the well-known smoky quartz, which is very often erroneously called smoky topaz. The origin of the coloring of the amethyst has not been determined as yet, but the opinion that it was due to the presence of a compound of sulfocyanid with iron has been found to be wrong. In many minerals the color is caused by the presence of chrome. This has been a long-established fact as regards a certain variety of garnet, spinel, and diopside (a variety of augite). But other highly prized gems owe their color to chrom , *e.g.*, the red and violet spinel, the ruby, the sapphire, the Oriental amethyst, the green zircon, and the topaz of Villarica, Brazil. In the ruby and the sapphire, it is true, chrome could not be discovered direct; but it was established in the opposite way that the combination of the elements constituting the said gems and potassium bichromate produces colorless metals on the one hand, but also red, blue, yellow, and green ones. Thus, numerous other examples might be cited, in which the cause of the coloring of minerals might be ascertained, but a much larger number of colored minerals remain, whose color the chemists have not yet explained."

Submarine Boats Abroad.—The success of the recent experiments with the Holland submarine boat, as recently reported in these columns, lends interest to the subject of submarine boats abroad. "It is from the repeated failures of different types of submarine boats constructed in Europe," says *The Marine Review*, in discussing the subject, "that the sentiment hostile to submarine craft of all kinds, now so prevalent among British engineers particularly, has emanated. France has been the one European nation to keep steadily pegging away at the submarine-boat idea despite frequent and numerous failures. The events of the past year or two demonstrate this conclusively. It was not so very long ago that there was an immense outburst of enthusiasm over the *Gustave Zede*, but later investigations proved that the range of action of the vessel was limited in the extreme. The French authorities got some consolation, however, out of the fact that the *Zede* had at least demonstrated the practicability of the submarine boat. After the Goubet boat, to which they next turned their attention, had been proven thoroughly impracticable, they pinned their faith to the Morse. Now that more complete trials of the Morse have been made, it is found that her range of action is quite as restricted as that of the Zede. The next submarine vessel with which experiments will be made is the *Narvel*, which was launched a few weeks ago at Cherbourg."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"The rural telephone service," says *The Electrical World*, "is said to be far advanced in northeastern Ohio, and particularly in Geauga county, which is strictly an agricultural county. Not only is there an office in every township, but hundreds of farmers have telephones in their homes. One of the companies in the county named is strictly a farmers' company, it being operated by eight farmers, who own everything from franchise to switch-board. The primary object in constructing the lines was not to build them for an investment, but as a help in the transaction of business, and to give the families some of the social privileges that are too often lacking on the farm."

The law recently passed in North Dakota prohibiting the marriage of persons afflicted with hereditary disease is quoted with approval by the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, October 14). It says: "Science makes great efforts, often without effect, to cure and correct diseases and abnormalities. It would be much simpler to prevent their occurrence. Is not prevention in all things a better method than cure? Our era is not accustomed to the radical customs of the Spartans, but they certainly contained much that was good, and without cruelty it is perhaps impossible to arrive at the same result." The trouble with such laws is, of course, that their passage by a single State is ineffective and merely drives diseased persons into adjoining States for the performance of the marriage ceremony.

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD WAR.

THE Rev. Dr. Alexander MacKennel, one of the British representatives at the recent International Congregational Council, in his address (reprinted in the Hartford *Seminary Record*, November) took a survey of the question of international relations in the light of recent history. At the opening of the first International Industrial Exposition on May-day, 1851, in London, he says, the nations were apparently learning the great lesson of their interdependence, and that for one nation in the universal brotherhood to wage bloody war on another people is as tho the right hand of a man were stabbing the left hand. The eve of the fulfilment of Tennyson's prediction seemed near:

"Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle flags were furl'd
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the World.
There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapt in universal law."

"It was a generous forecast," remarks Dr. MacKennel, "but it left human nature out of the account. The girders of the Crystal Palace were hardly removed from Hyde Park when the Crimean war broke out; and that war has left behind it fears and anxieties and a mutual distrust that have not since allowed Europe a tranquil year." The end of the century finds us confronted by "signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."

In spite of the generous motives from which war often arises, its results upon public and private ideals are unfortunate. He says:

"War squanders and degrades the noble impulse which gave it being. If the impulse could go at once to its object, as when a father boxes a troublesome boy's ears, or a passerby knocks down a scoundrel who is insulting a woman, there might be some justification for militarism in a civilized community. But this is just what never happens. Months and years intervene between the honest indignation and the declaration of war, and a still longer period drags on until the end of the fighting. Not many persons can bear the strain of a noble purpose again and again thwarted, its fulfilment indefinitely, hopelessly delayed. History tells us that the martyrs can; it also tells us that the soldier can not, the politician can not, the people in public meeting can not. We have seen the process of deterioration more than once. The nation is sincerely enthusiastic; but the conduct of the war passes into the hands of men with whom war is a profession; and it gives opportunity to the unscrupulous speculator to make his gain. As the months go on, there is great searching of heart among Christians; with those who are not Christian the generous impulse becomes an ignoble necessity of finishing what has been begun. Then, as the opposition is prolonged, the determination is come to use any and every means to put down the enemy; something like malignant temper may appear where the original motive was so good. If there is a marked inequality between the combatants, or if one side has roundly beaten the other, the conquerors do not stop with righting the wrong, they aim at punishing the beaten party. The cry *Væ victis* has a pagan sound; have we altered the fact when we talk of 'indemnity'? If the nations are fairly matched, both are weary of the struggle long before it is ended; terms are proposed and accepted far less satisfactory to either than could have been arrived at without fighting; but there is no grace in the proposal or the acceptance—only a rankling sense of humiliation and necessity; forbidding concord between the nations.

"Recent events, moreover, have shown us that war fails conspicuously where its pretensions have been the loudest—it does not inspire and sustain the loftiest courage. Bravery in fighting is one of the primary animal instincts; the tiger has it, so has the dog, so has the Norwegian lemming, a little creature you could cover with the palm of your hand, and which has not the sense to avoid drowning itself when in its migration it reaches the sea. . . . There is a higher power of courage of which we know nothing. If it were not so sad a spectacle, we might find boundless humor in the fact that Europe has been, for fifty years, massing armies which it to-day trembles to behold, perfecting weapons of precision until it is afraid to use them. History knows few more disgraceful sights than the 'Concert of Europe'; civilization cowering before barbarism."

The so-called Christian governments are frankly pagan, says Dr. MacKennel, and the ultimate principles and purposes of state and church are radically different. The Christian law is: "So is the will of God, that with well-doing ye put to silence the ignorance of foolish men"; and, "It is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well-doing than for evil-doing." But there is not a cabinet in Europe where this law is accepted or dreamed of as a possible guide to national action. Dr. MacKennel continues:

"We may frankly aver that indignation is an honest impulse, that resistance of wrong, the determination to put it down, ought to have an abiding place in human action; that the call to war, because it is an appeal to common, not to individualistic, effort, may startle the selfish into warmth of heart; and that the discipline, of which the military system has been up to now the chief exponent, has trained men in the subordination of self to society. We may recognize that humane sentiment has, from the beginning, tempered the sufferings and the humiliations of war; and that, under Christian influence, regard for the wounded and tenderness toward the vanquished, individually, have come to be prevailing sentiments. And we may wish that this pitifulness may have full play when whites are in conflict with colored men as well as in what is called 'civilized warfare.' But it has become conspicuously clear that war is no instrument for the accomplishment of the highest ends; and that involves—since the highest human ends are always in the consciousness of the true follower of Christ—that it has become hard, and will become impossible, for Christian people to employ it. War may be a fitting instrument for men inflamed with the lust of possession; it fails us when we invoke its aid for unselfish uses."

THE RETIREMENT OF DR. STORRS.

THE resignation of the Rev. Dr. Richard S. Storrs, after a pastorate of fifty-three years in the Congregational Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, altho hardly coming as a surprise, has called forth wide regret and expressions of exceptional esteem. Dr. Storrs has been a notable man throughout his long public career—eloquent, dignified, and conservative after the type of the older clerical school. His resignation, together with the retirement of Dr. Abbott from Plymouth Church, that of Dr. Van Dyke from the Brick Presbyterian Church, and the calling of Dr. Morgan, of London, to fill the place of Dr. John Hall in the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, almost marks the end of a church era in New York and the commencement of a period in which new influences will prevail. The New York *Tribune*, referring to the active career of Dr. Storrs and the potent force he has exerted in the intellectual life of the times, says:

"He has never cared to cultivate the arts of popularity, and it may be admitted that he has appealed directly to the few rather than the many. But through those to whom he has been a model and an inspiration his influence has been widely diffused. He is among the last, as he has always been among the foremost, of the orators of the school to which Edward Everett belonged. His style is not impassioned and magnetic, but when his theme is great and he has summoned all his resources his eloquence is lofty and commanding. We recall no American orator of this or a preceding generation in whom a rare and beautiful fluency of speech was raised further above the commonplace by range and nobility of thought, and by exquisite discernment and precision in the choice of words. Those who heard his oration on the Turk and the Muscovite during the war of 1877, delivered first in the Brooklyn Academy of Music, have never outlived the impression of power and felicity which that splendid performance produced

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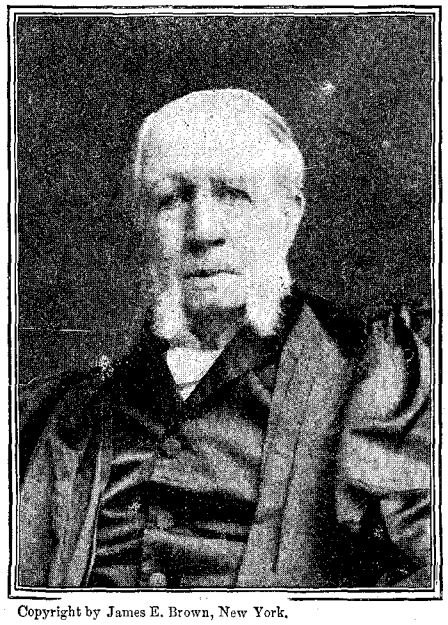
upon their minds. We believe it was Dr. Eliot, of Harvard, who said that it was the greatest triumph in the field of intellectual expression which he had ever witnessed."

The New York *Times* says that his long and unclouded pastorate constitutes an object-lesson to the whole country, and has thus been a public service:

"Primarily that service must be said to consist in the example he has given for more than half a century of what a Christian pastor in a great and growing city should be. Not only has he won the love and respect of three generations of members of his own congregation, but he has at all times inspired that congregation to active, faithful, and fruitful work on all the lines of effort proper to the church. And on all occasions he has been and has helped his people to be the support of the highest standard of conduct in private and in public life. It has been distinctly easier for the right to prevail and harder for the wrong to gain a foothold in the society of which the Church of the Pilgrims and its pastor have been factors than it would have been without them. Purity, honesty, individual and civic moral courage have been advanced by them, and at some times when evasion or silence would have been far more comfortable. In connection with his pastoral work also it is to be said that his service has been great through his steady adherence to the best traditions of the pulpit and the fidelity with which he has devoted to his task the great gifts that would have easily earned him fame and profit outside. The ministry as he has understood and practised it has been, in the old and fine sense, a 'calling,' and to its voice he has never allowed his mind to be dulled by any distraction whatever."



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REV. DR. RICHARD S. STORRS.

The New York *Independent* (November 23) calls Dr. Storrs "the most distinguished figure in the American pulpit," and adds that "his character has been as lofty as his ability is great." It says:

"As an orator Dr. Storrs has acquired his great public fame. His address at Boston last month gives us hope that he may yet long hold the platform if not the pastorate. He is probably the most finished and acceptable orator in the country. We know not who else preserves the succession of Webster, Choate, and Everett. His style is fitted to the oration. It is never trivial; it is always noble and often grand. He has the figure of the orator—tall, strong, and massive. He represents great personal dignity. He has a clear, full voice, perfectly under control. He has a memory which is one of the wonders of all who hear him. He will proceed through a historical address of two hours, bristling with facts, dates, and figures, with never a reference to a scrap of paper, and every sentence as exactly framed and as nicely joined in its place as if the whole were written out and committed to memory, when, in fact, it has been composed only in the orator's mind. His learning, especially in historical lines, is as remarkable as his memory. In attainments he is one of the most cultivated men this country has ever produced. Then, above all this, come the higher qualities of a sound judgment, great discretion, and courage. He dares first to trust his own judgment, and then to follow it. This has shown itself on occasions in his ministry when he has taken the lead in a great contest, and in such a case he has carried the convictions of the public with him. They have known that there was nothing erratic about Dr. Storrs; that what he said and did was deeply considered, and the weight he carried was irresistible."

The Outlook (November 25) remarks that only two pastorates of recent years have equalled that of Dr. Storrs in length. It says:

"A discriminating characterization of such a man and his work is not, in our judgment, fitting while he is still living. But it may at least be said that throughout the country he holds a well-deserved reputation of being, for polished eloquence, thoughtfulness, scholarship, and length of service, the primate of the Congregational Church. But his work and usefulness have not been confined within the limits of his parish. His active service in the anti-slavery cause, his cooperation with Dr. Leonard Bacon and Dr. Joseph P. Thompson in *The Independent* for over twelve eventful years, his public work as a distinguished citizen of Brooklyn, whose Historical Library will perhaps be his noblest monument, and his labors as a mediator in the controversies in the American Board, and his skill in leading it, tho himself a conservative, on to a broader and more liberal platform, combine to give him a position in the church and in the nation larger even than that given to him by his long and successful pastorate. One sentence in his letter of resignation deserves to be remembered, recalled, and often repeated for the benefit of young men hesitating between differing professions, and it is all the more significant since Dr. Storrs began the study of the law and subsequently abandoned it for the ministry: 'If to-day were offered me the choice of a pathway in life, the most alluring and rewarding, I should choose none other than that which has been given me—the pathway of a Christian pastor, joyfully trying to bring to men the grace and glory of the Lord's Gospel.'"

WHY DOES THE ROMEWARD TENDENCY IN THE ENGLISH CHURCH INCREASE?

IN contrast with the "Away-from-Rome" crusade in German-Austria (which within the last six months has caused more than five thousand Roman Catholics to embrace Protestantism), is the ritualistic movement in England that is aiming to "Catholicize" the established church. An attempt to analyze this movement, from the point of view of an impartial church historian, is found in the *Beweis des Glaubens* (Gutersloh, Germany, No. 10). After giving comparatively complete data, the writer assigns as the reasons for the movement the following:

As a first and probably chief reason for this Romeward trend, one must regard the predominantly aristocratic character of England's national development since the era of the Reformation. Of its two classes, the clergy and the laity, the most prominent tendencies have been toward aristocratic interests and ambitions. With the exception of the revolutionary spasms of 1648–60, democratic ideas have never been able to obtain the upper hand in England's development. The traditional character of public and church life has been aristocratic, and the external splendor of public service has ever found a warm place in the hearts of the people. In retaining the Episcopal hierarchy the English nation has also inherited from the Middle Ages a love for rich splendor of ritual, which has ever been a prominent factor in its church life, notwithstanding the brief temporary check of the Puritanic period of Cromwell. And it is no exaggeration to say that the present agitation is practically a revival of the Anglo-Catholic system of Archbishop Laud, who is thought by modern ritualists to be as much a martyr as Charles I. The German church historian, Mettgenberg, says, in his "Ritualism and Romanism in England," that the hierarchical teachings of Laud furnish the key to the present ritualistic ideas. The latter have thus an historical basis and are but a development of germs that have been inherent in the Church of England ever since the days of the Reformation.

A second reason, which, however, has become an active factor only within the last half-century, is the expansion of the Roman Catholic hierarchy on English soil, which has furnished the Ritualists with a model to guide them in their work. The establishment of this system is of comparatively recent date, having been inaugurated by Pius IX. in 1850 by the appointment of the Arch-

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bishop of Westminster and twelve suffragan bishops for various sees. The remarkable success of the Tractarian movement in Oxford had encouraged the Vatican to enter upon this enterprise where only a few decades before Catholic services had been forbidden. A Catholic hierarchy was established even in a ultra-Protestant Scotland. What Newman and Manning accomplished after they had entered the fold of Rome encouraged their friends who had not followed them that far to pursue similar ideals within the state church itself; and the movement attained the character of popularity.

A third reason for the success of this Catholicizing movement has been the inactivity and the exceeding great patience of the other parties in the established-church fold. Here side by side have existed three distinct tendencies—namely, the High Church, or ritualistic party; the Low Church, or evangelical party, closely akin to the Methodistic and pietistic school; and a Broad or Liberal party, closely akin to the negative Protestantism of Germany, which denies more or less even the fundamentals of traditional evangelical doctrine. The evangelical party has done excellent work in the department of practical Christianity, while the Broad Church party has developed a technical scholarship of a high degree. But both have until recently regarded with comparative indifference the hierarchical ambitions of the Catholicizing sections of the church, and have not stood for the traditional landmarks of the church of the Reformation. In fact, the Broad-Church party has in many cases made common cause with the Ritualists against the Evangelicals; and this explains why so many of the leading chairs in Oxford are occupied by rationalists, and why the Ritschl school of the continent has in recent years been able to report notable additions among the Oxford and other theologians of England.

A fourth reason is to be sought in the fact that the anti-ritualistic movement has been poorly organized, and that its leadership has been entrusted to men who are more zealous than wise. Its present head is the London publisher and book-man, John Kensit, who indeed is bold and decided, but who lacks the necessary wisdom. His interruption of the Catholicizing Good Friday services in the ritualistic St. Cuthbert's Church, when he cried out, "In the name of God, I declare this to be idolatry," aroused a good deal of excitement, but did not help the cause of historical Protestantism. A cure can be found only in the complete acceptance of both the material and the formal principles of the Reformation: namely, the doctrine of justification by faith alone, and the Scriptures as the sole source of dogma and morals, together with the legitimate practical application of these principles.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE PROBLEM OF THE COUNTRY CHURCH.

THE much-talked-of decay of religion in the rural districts presents a problem to the Christian churches which will probably receive increasing attention. It is believed by many that the condition is one for which the missionary societies are not responsible, and that the growth of religious life in the smaller towns and country districts must come by direct individual and congregational effort from the stronger centers. *The Christian Standard*, organ of the Christian Church, says (November 18):

"No amount of giving for general missionary interests will relieve us of the responsibility thoroughly to cultivate our own contiguous field. Where there is a strong church at a county-seat, or metropolis of a county or district, and dying churches in all the regions about, the strong church is not doing its duty, especially if the evil is a chronic one. For churches to be declining when efficient established preachers are within an hour's travel means that the strong have refused to bear the burdens of the weak and are seeking to please themselves.

"The first business of a preacher is to preach the Gospel; and certainly the delivery of two brief sermons a week should not satisfy where opportunities are many and the need is great. From the neglected and decadent congregations six or ten or twenty miles away we hear the voice of the man of Macedonia, 'Come over and help us.' We will not be held guiltless if we heed not that cry. Every strong church, with its capable ministers and many helpers, should consider itself a divinely appointed evangelization society to preach the Gospel within the personal reach of its own membership. The whole problem of country evangelization is very much in the hands of the preachers themselves. The almost insane desire to go to the city which has taken possession of the people seems to be infecting the ministry as well. The exaggerated and false ideas of the greater importance of city pulpits draw young preachers from the quieter, but certainly no less fertile, country fields, to the intense but unspiritual city life. While the city is not to be neglected, the question of ministering there should not be determined by personal preference, but by what seems to be the call of the Lord through providential indications, and the unsolicited invitation of the city brethren themselves. Opportunity, and not honor, should rule in our choice between the country and the city pulpit.

"One of the most urgent needs in connection with the right solution of this same problem of the country church is a movement in the colleges in favor of country evangelization. A student volunteer movement pledging college men to begin their ministry in some country or village field is as urgent and important as that which was started in the behalf of preaching the Gospel in heathen lands. There are exceptions, but in most cases, for their own intellectual development and to secure knowledge of and sympathy with the people, our ministerial graduates should determine to spend a term of years in the country or on the frontier, before even considering a call to the big towns and crowded cities. College faculties may do much toward solving the problem of the country church, from which they draw the majority of their students, especially those who, in the years to come, are to reflect honor upon their *alma mater*. If the world is to be evangelized through America, then more attention must be paid to the preaching of the Gospel and the nurture of the churches in the country districts."

THE CIVILIZING INFLUENCE OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

A REMARKABLE feature of the Dreyfus controversy has been the attempt not only to find a religious motive for the persecution of the unfortunate captain, but to fix upon the Roman Catholic Church a large portion of the responsibility for the supposed miscarriage of justice. We have already given in some detail the allegations and counter allegations which appeared a short time ago in the London *Times*. The discussion is still simmering in England, and out of it has grown an article in *The New Century Review* (November) by Cardinal Vaughan, which is referred to by the editor as "a splendid vindication of the church." The article touches on the Dreyfus case but briefly, the cardinal taking up the wider question of his church's general influence upon national welfare, in reply to the sweeping accusation of "Verax" that the Roman Catholic Church is responsible for the backward condition of Ireland, Spain, and Italy, and has "always been inimical to the highest civilizations." Says the cardinal:

"When I assert that the Catholic Church with a free hand is well able to promote the happiness of the people, and to raise them from the pagan to the Christian level of thought and action, my statement, I believe, is amply borne out by the history of Christian civilization. I need only appeal to such names as Milman, Hallam, Froude, Lecky, Farrar, Guizot, and a host of other witnesses who are above suspicion. But when I claim for the Catholic and Roman Church now the same divine power and vitality she gave proof of in England during a thousand years of our history, I am confronted with the present state of Ireland, France, and Spain. It would be almost as reasonable to say that the degraded condition of masses of the English poor, and the causes that have led to their misery, are attributable to the Catholic Church; only that it is too generally realized here that the Catholic Church lay prostrate, bleeding, and dying under the harrow, for two or three centuries in England, for even the stanchest Protestant to cast the blame for the state of the English poor upon the Catholic Church.

"But we are bid to look at Ireland where the people have remained Catholic. Now, the sufferings of the Catholic Church in Ireland have been second only to those of the Church in England.

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Archbishop Whately, accounting for his own want of success, wrote that he 'had to fight the battle (of Protestantism in Ireland) with one hand, and that his best, tied behind him.'

"The Catholic Church in Ireland has had to carry out her divine mission, not 'with one hand tied behind her,' but with both hands cut off. She was stripped of her possessions, reduced to poverty, deprived of the right to educate, the land taken from Catholics and given to Protestants, fettered and persecuted in every possible way by England for centuries. And yet, even so, she has maintained a peasantry that is singularly pure and chaste, and in ordinary times freer from crime than that of England; while, in spite of every disadvantage, she has preserved a high standard of virtue, faith, and piety among her keenly intelligent and sympathetic poor. Let any one contrast the intellectual, moral, and religious condition of the poor of Ireland with that of the lower classes in our great towns, and then say, if he please, that the cause of the irrespective conditions is to be found in the respective religions of the two countries.

"But we are referred to France as further proof against the character of the Catholic Church. Has it been forgotten that the church in France was drowned in a sea of blood a hundred years ago; that religion, revelation, and God Himself were publicly proscribed; that the church is not free to this day in France; that her bishops may nowhere meet in synod; that her religious orders are under a ban; and that whatever education the church gives is under distress and disadvantages? And yet, in spite of a century of disabilities, Catholic France produces at the present day a great multitude of as noble examples of generosity and devotedness as the world has ever seen.

"Again, we are referred to Spain; but during the century Spain also has been swept by the evil principles of the French Revolution, her religious orders have been again and again suppressed, her seminaries closed, her property confiscated, and for years her episcopate was actually extinguished. The church in Spain has had to fight with more than 'one hand tied behind her.' Yet look at the Spanish poor, and you will find in them an inbred gentility, a noble bearing, a religious sense and courtesy, that you will search for in vain in England. It is only fair to remember that the Catholic Church in Spain and in South America, as in other lands, has had to fulfil her divine mission in chains, weakened on all sides by the state, if not actually enslaved by its laws."

Turning to the reproach of "Verax" that the Roman Catholic Church was to be convicted of partizanship against Dreyfus, Cardinal Vaughan asks if this is just. He continues:

"The Dreyfus case has been torn to pieces, and all over the country has divided members of the same Catholic family. The bishops have endeavored to calm the minds of men, but it is not easy to allay a panic. But belief in his guilt has not been confined to the French Catholics; ministry after ministry, without a shred of Catholicity in its composition, was convinced of his guilt. If there has been passion on one side, has there been no passion on the other?

"If certain fiery organs of the cheap Catholic press in France have been unfortunately carried away by partizanship, do they stand alone in partizanship in France or elsewhere? France has been distracted for generations by political turmoil, and is honeycombed by unscrupulous secret societies, pledged to despoil and destroy the Catholic Church wherever they can. Can we be surprised, then, that a single incident, that the name and fate of a single case, should precipitate convictions or fears on one side or on the other? A single spark may create a conflagration. France having been living under panic for years; and it is not to be wondered at if some men lose their heads in a state of national panic."

Churches of Salt.—The city of Williczka, in Polish Austria, which has long been known as the "City of Salt," contains some wholly unique specimens of church architecture. Its salt-mines, excavated for over eight hundred years, cover a vast underground area with streets, public squares, amusement halls and restaurants, a railway station, thirty miles of underground railway, and chapels, all constructed of blocks of salt which give out a dazzling radiance in the electric light. A writer in *The Pilot* (Rom. Cath.) thus describes a scene in St. Anthony's Chapel, which was built in 1698 by a nameless unaided miner out of solid masses of salt, and which the writer calls the most remarkable place of worship in the world:

"Several times each year the priests of the district hold services in this underground chapel, and one service in particular is annually celebrated on July 3 with considerable pomp and earnest devotion. The priests attired in full robes descend the mines in state and are accompanied by hundreds of pious people, who journey for miles from all parts of the country in order to take part in the service. A crowd of sightseers, too, attracted by ceremonies so unique in their surroundings, come specially on this day to view the mines and reverently listen. The chants of the priests and the sweet voices of the singers reverberate through the empty rooms and passages in a manner which is both solemn and impressive.

"The Queen's chapel, the second important one, also possesses a magnificent 'altar,' which has been carved with expert skill in solid salt. On the side of the chapel, too, has been carved, with almost incredible art, a view of Bethlehem.

"It is rather a curious testimony to the strong religious feeling of the people of olden times to find to the present day the majority of the rooms and corridors are still named after the saints and martyrs who have figured in the history of religion, and even to-day the religious fervor of centuries ago still seems to retain an influence over the inhabitants of this unique city of salt."

Evangelical Saint-Worship.—An extraordinary development is making its appearance in the very bosom of Protestantism, according to *The Living Church* (Prot. Episc., November 4), which says that this phenomenon is nothing less than the practise of prayer to the saints—only the saints "are not the apostles and martyrs, or the heroes of faith whom the church has placed in her calendar," but the departed friends of the devotees. It says:

"Dr. George Adam Smith, in his 'Life of Henry Drummond,' mentions as a fact within his knowledge that certain persons habitually address prayers to Henry Drummond. Dr. Joseph Parker, of the City Temple, London (not the Temple church), a doughty adversary of 'Popery and Prelacy,' has openly declared that he prayed to his departed wife every day. He said that he never came to the City Temple to preach without asking her to come with him, and, furthermore, he knew that she did come. Nor does he hold this as a mere sentiment applicable only to his own individual case, but alluding to a friend who had lost his wife, he says: 'I encourage my friend to pray to his wife, and to pray to God to ask her to come to his help. She will be more to him than twelve legions of unknown angels.' Dr. Parker evidently has no use for the 'ministering spirits sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation.' Well may the Protestant paper from which we cull these instances say: 'All this is simply petrifying!' It mentions a Roman litany to the saints, and asks: 'Is this what we are going to come to in our Protestant churches?'"

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

A NEW YORK yellow journal which does not love Governor Roosevelt calls attention to the fact that the high personages mentioned in his Thanksgiving Proclamation are as follows:

Personages.	*Times Mentioned.*
I	1
Theodore Roosevelt	2
Governor of the State of New York	1
God	0

"A Thanksgiving Proclamation with no reference whatever to a Supreme Being is somewhat of a curiosity," says this paper. "Even when all religion was banned in France during the Revolution, Robespierre had a feast of the *Etre Supreme*, as Sir Henry Irving has reminded us."

THE following curiosity of English provincial verse was lately sent to Dr. William J. Rolfe from Exeter, in the west of England, and is reproduced in *The Critic* (November). A certain bishop of Exeter, it appears, was visiting a village church, when to his astonishment the following hymn was sung in his honor:

"Why skip ye zo, ye little 'ills?
Why skip? why skip? why skip?
Why? Jez becuz we'm glad to zee
His grace, the lard bi*ship*!

Why 'op ye zo, ye leetle lambs?
Why 'op? why 'op? why 'op?
Why? Jez becuz we'm glad to zee
His grace, the lard bi*shop*!"

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE SAMOAN SETTLEMENT.

SUBJECT, of course, to the approval of the United States, Great Britain and Germany have settled the Samoan question. Great Britain retires from the islands, leaving Upolu and Savai, with the nearby islets, to the Germans, who have certainly the largest interests established there. Choisil and Isabel, two islands of the Solomon group, are turned over to England, Germany also abandoning her claims to the Tonga and Savage islands. Certain arrangements in Africa, such as the extra-territoriality of the Germans in Zanzibar and the frontier delimitations of Togo and the Gold Coast, are also included in the arrangement. The Germans seem to be well pleased. The English also seem to be satisfied, as they receive much larger territory in return. Difficulties with the United States are not expected, as the Americans obtain what they most desired, the island of Tutuila with its fine harbor. The London *Spectator* says:

"Upon the whole, neither party has gained anything; but the Germans are delighted, as they believe in the value of Samoa, the Americans keep the only advantage they wanted, and the English, besides acquiring clear rights in islands where their rights were doubtful, get rid of an irritating *condominium*. The only objectionable feature in the transaction is that the Samoans would probably have elected us by plebiscite, they dreading German severity; but as we are not sovereign over them we are not abandoning attached subjects."

The Westminster Gazette expresses itself to the following effect:

The agreement turns over the larger part of the Samoan group to the Germans, and as it is just now thought prudent to keep them in good humor, Great Britain need not complain. Otherwise it would not do to turn over territory to the Germans, whose rule is not pleasant. England at least receives equivalents. *The Daily Chronicle* points out that the Australian colonies may not be well pleased. New Zealand has long since expressed her desire to annex the Samoan Islands on the same terms as those on which she obtained the Cooks Islands; but if England were to fulfil every whim of her colonies, she would have little peace just now.

Lord Salisbury, at the recent Lord Mayor's banquet, explained that the Germans had put much capital and energy into the Samoan Islands, and hence wanted the land. England does not want islands which have bad ports, and in Tonga she obtains a good one. The Berlin *Tageblatt* says:

The Solomon Islands are much larger than the islands of the Samoan group now ceded to Germany, but they are not healthy, and the natives are very fierce and warlike. On the whole, the Samoan Islands are not obtained at too high a price. We shall have the Americans as neighbors, but this is not likely to lead to grave difficulties such as would ensue if we had the British so near us.

The *Boersen Zeitung*, however, fears this proximity of the Americans may detract from the value of the islands to Germany. The *Kölnische Zeitung* says:

"The United States acquired Pago Pago for a coaling-station as long ago as 1878. That treaty stands good to-day, and the Americans are satisfied with the renunciation of all rights the other powers may have retained in Tutuila. Germany could not well withdraw from the rest of the group. Aside from sentimental reasons, there were many practical ones. Our withdrawal would have been regarded as a sign of weakness and an acknowledgment of England's superiority, which we were little disposed to make. Happily the German Government never thought of it. On the other hand it must be admitted that the Australian colonies made England's position difficult, for England hoped to obtain material support from Australia during the present war, and was forced to humor the Australians. That England paid for Germany's good will as regards the South African war we are not prepared to admit. The overwhelming preponderance of Great Britain at sea is a fact, and the Samoan arrangement is merely one of exchange on business principles. The German Government is not bound by it to renounce its freedom of action in any direction."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE "COLORED PROBLEM" IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE war in South Africa is remarkable in many respects, and not the least of these is the fact that a third factor may appear upon the scene at any moment. This important "unknown quantity" of the problem is the native population, which largely outnumbers the whites. Already it has been suggested to the British Government to organize native troops against the Boers; but these would have to be armed with the most effective rifles, else they would hardly face the Boers, and this would be a dangerous experiment. The tribe most likely to play an important part is the Basutos. The Paris *Journal des Débats* refers to them as follows:

"Officially, they have not been invited to play their part, for public opinion in Great Britain is, on the whole, opposed to the scheme. . . . But it is possible that the Basutos may appear upon the scene without invitation, to settle old scores with the descendants of the terrible *voortrekkers* of '36. Their intervention may be spontaneous, yet of a nature to serve British interests. For the defense of their wives and little ones the Boers may be forced to hasten north, leaving the English free to concentrate their forces."

The Boers are very bitter in their comments upon the supposed attempts to arouse the colored element against them, and the success of such attempts may lead to immediate open rebellion in the Cape Colony. The Amsterdam *Handelsblad* remarks that "it is easy to believe that England will endeavor to prevent the rising of the Basutos, as this would be answered at once by a rising of all the Cape Dutch." The Berlin *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"Officially the British Government has declared that no use of native contingents will be made. The British Resident in Basutoland declares, however, that the Boers have endeavored to tamper with the loyalty of the natives. Their threats have aroused much resentment, and it may be difficult to keep the Basutos from attacking the Boers. Despite these declarations, it is doubtful that the Basutos will attack the Boers. They know well enough that their own semi-independence would not last long if the Boer republics are crushed."

Mr. Fox-Bourne, the secretary of the Aborigines' Protection Society, expresses himself to the following effect in the London *Daily Mail*:

The natives of Northern Transvaal may be the first to rise against the Boers. In the Orange Free State there is not much danger of a rising; but there is in Swaziland. The Swazis have never forgiven the English for turning them over to the Boers. They will massacre English and Boers indiscriminately.

The Basutos never were satisfied with the annexation of their country by the Cape Colony. Since 1884 Basutoland has been declared a crown colony, and the Basutos were allowed to administer their own affairs to a large extent. But they always fear for the destruction of their semi-independence. Neither are they on good terms with the Orange Free State, which consists largely of territory wrested from the Basutos. Yet the Basutos may be prevailed upon to assist the Boers, if their independence is guaranteed.

The Pondos and Griquas also may give trouble, but they are not as warlike as the Basutos.

The Zulus and Matabele are pretty certain to rise against the English if they rise at all. According to reliable accounts, the natives in Zululand and Matabeleland are well pleased with the proclamations annexing the territory they inhabit to the Trans-

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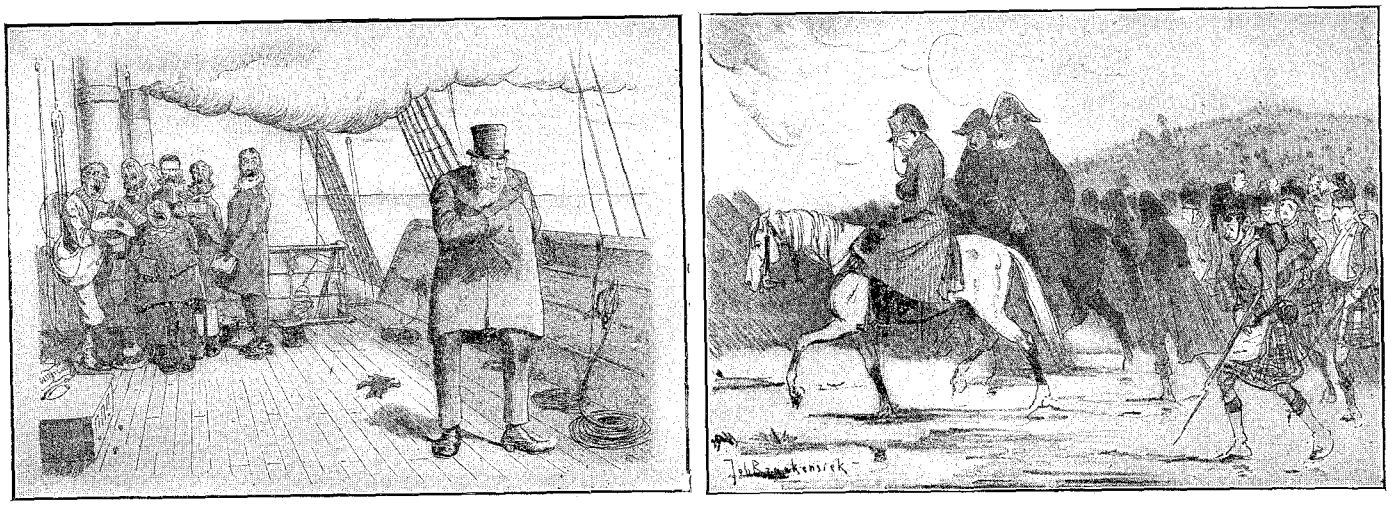
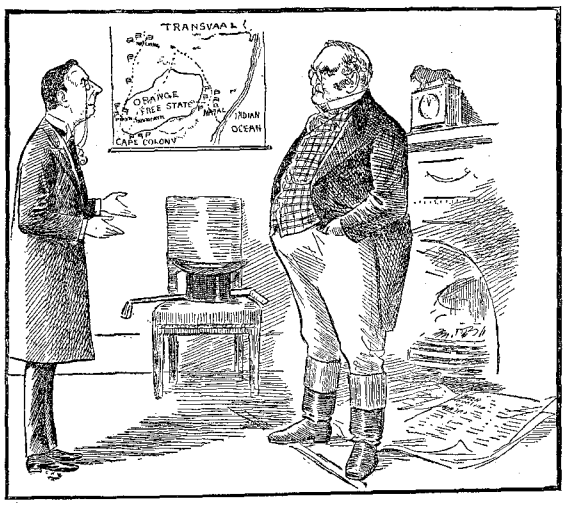


TWO PROPHECIES ON THE ENDING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

LONDON PUNCH: Oom-Pauleon Boernaparte on board the *Highbury Castle* on his way to St. Joseph or any other far-off place appointed by the Colonial Secretary. (With apologies to W. Q. Ordchardson, R. A.)

AMSTERDAMMER: "We suggest in all humility that the matter is likely to end with the retreat of the Imperialist Joseph and his forces." (With apologies to Meissonier.)



MR. BULL BEGINS TO BE CRITICAL.

MR. BULL: "You should have had more men out there before you bluffed."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: "Oh, but we couldn't, sir; those dreadful Radicals——"

MR. BULL: "Don't tell me that—with your majority of 150—the fact is, you bluffed before you got your cards."

—*Westminster Gazette.*

THE NEW MACBETH.

LADY MACBETH TO MACBETH-CHAMBERLAIN: "Yes, and even you will find that all the gold of Charterland will not sweeten this little Rand." —*Le Rire, Paris.*

ENGLISH CIVILIZATION.

"For 5*s.* a day, my dear boy, we can get fellows to fight for the honor of England. No English gentleman would soil his hands in such a trade."

—*Simplicissimus, Munich.*

KRUGER'S VISION.

"What, will the 'thin red' line stretch out to the crack of doom?"—*Macbeth*, Act iv., Scene 1. —*Punch.*

JOHN BULL SOLUS.

"Ah, what ingratitude! And after all I've done to make the world happy!"

—*Fischietto, Turin.*

RULE, BRITANNIA!

—*Kikeriki, Vienna.*

FOREIGN CARTOONS ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

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vaal. In rough numbers the native population is given as follows in the statistical reports of the Cape Colony:

	Whites.	Colored.
Cape Colony	400,000	1,200,000
Natal	65,000	500,000
Transvaal	300,000	600,000
Free State	115,000	130,000
Rhodesia	13,000	500,000
Basutoland	600	250,000

There is also a large native population in German Southwest Africa, against which only 3,000 whites can be placed.

Dr. Leyds, the European agent of the Transvaal, whose statements, however, are not always to be trusted, declares that the English have already armed some natives. The fact is that both armies have colored servants and camp followers, and the most trusted of these are generally given weapons to defend the cattle they take out to graze.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A WAR CLOUD IN THE FAR EAST.

THE Japanese fleet is nearing its completion, and the Japanese are more and more inclined to demand that they shall be regarded as the predominant power of the far East. The Tokyo *Nippon* recently warned the Germans that Korea is "within the sphere of Japanese interests," probably under the impression that Prince Henry is rather more than a naval commander and a "commercial traveler," and that he is after important political concessions from the Korean Government. The Germans, however, are not likely to trouble Japan seriously. Much graver is the attitude of Russia, and there is a general impression that Japan will follow the example of the Boers, and strike before her huge adversary can bring all his force to bear. The point at issue, according to *The Japan Mail*, may be sketched as follows:

The Russian Government endeavored to obtain some land at Masanpo, as a most convenient site for a naval station between Vladivostock and Liao-Tung. The land had already passed into the hands of the Japanese, who, as might be expected, refused to part with it. Russia tried to use the influence of the Korean Government to gain her point, but without avail, as the Japanese Government remained firm. Russia now endeavors to obtain compensations from Korea in other directions, but, as Japan regards Korea as her heritage, grave complications may result.

The Tokyo *Yorodzu Choho*, referring to the action of the Korean Government, which asked the Russians to confer direct with Japan, says:

"Considering the slavish submission Korea has usually shown hitherto when dealing with Russia, this attitude of hers adopted in connection with the affair in question must be said to be pretty strong. It unmistakably shows that the Japanese Government is resolved to back the Korean Government to a considerable extent against the Russian advance. This is rather unusual, and therefore the question is doubly interesting and deserves more than casual attention. We shall now see how the affair developed. . .

"How will the Russian Government now act? Perhaps Russia will not like to deal directly with this country, and will find some excuse to shun it and renew her diplomatic maneuvers against the Korean Government. Or she will press Korea to concede some other place or interest to her by way of compensation. At any rate, certain is it that the Muscovite empire will not remain silent."

The St. Petersburg *Novoye Vremya* expresses itself to the following effect:

The irresistible march of a vigorous power like Russia can not be prevented. This holds good especially in the case of territory which is manifestly intended to form a part of the Czar's dominions, such as various parts of Asia which at one time were included in the Chinese empire, and which could not be better administered by any other power than the Russians. Korea is such territory. Its geographical position, its most vital interests, force it to seek shelter under the political protection of Russia. In a similar way the Manchurians were bound to come under our influence.

The Shanghai *Celestial Empire* believes that Russia will consider a long time ere she forces a conflict, but, if she does, England must place herself on the side of Japan. The paper says:

"Russia may count the cost. It is not at all unlikely that she will. There are indeed endless reasons for her doing so besides the strength of the opposition she would meet with. She is poor, famine and plague-stricken, wasted by disease. Her people are ignorant, her resources undeveloped, her finances in disorder, her system of government discredited. . . . There is ample reason why Russia should at any rate 'mark time,' develop her resources, add to her trade, conciliate her rivals, and at the same time strengthen her position. . . . . .

"But, as we have indicated, it is possible, even if highly improbable, that Russia may strike a blow at some vital interest of Japan. In that case we do not hesitate to say that England should be found alongside her insular friend. The interests of the two nations are sufficiently alike to make them natural allies. . . . *Our combined rights are great; our determination to protect them should be proportionate.*"

But the English think that they have quite enough on their hands just now. The London *Spectator*, at least, expresses itself to that effect, in an article which we summarize as follows:

Japan can be no ward of ours. We English, if we have all the virtues in Scripture, can not undertake the government of the whole world. We have not the force for it. It is almost an accident that we have not to fight against the Boers, the Khalifa, King Menelek, and on our Indian frontier at the same time. Half Europe is hardly able to resist the temptation of springing at our throats. We could not get men enough even if we doubled the wages of the soldiers, and our people will not have conscription. We must confine further increase of empire to such advantages as may be obtained by the fleet alone. We greatly doubt whether British rule, with its wide liberties and reluctance to inflict death, would be good for Chinamen, but even if it were we have not the force to maintain it, and should limit ourselves to securing genuine freedom of trade. With the aid of America we can secure that, and therewith we had better rest content. If we must, *en passant*, wage a maritime war with Russia—the necessity of which we can not see—so be it, but in no case would we assist a Mongolian state to defeat a white one, or to annex the limitless potential resources of the Chinese empire.

The London *Outlook*, one of the more jingoistic of the English papers, expresses some doubts as to the financial ability of Japan to wage a big war, but adds reflectively: "A nation bent upon war can indulge in war whatever be the state of the national exchequer. The counting of the cost too often comes after, not before, the outbreak of hostilities."

Kaiser Wilhelm's Visit to England.—There is no attempt in England to conceal a feeling akin to elation over the visit of the Kaiser at the present time. This feeling is obviously augmented by the recent utterances of the European press discrediting the reports of the Kaiser's intention and expressing the hope that no such visit would be made. A mass-meeting was held in Hamburg several weeks ago which passed a resolution asking the Emperor to give up the visit and applauding his attitude toward England at the time of the Jameson raid. The *Vossische Zeitung* expressed the hope that unless definite announcements of the visit had been made, the Emperor would change his mind, as such a visit might be interpreted as an exhibition of sympathy for the Briton in his war with the Boer. The *Kreuz-Zeitung* (Berlin) objected to the visit on the same ground. The Paris *Matin* saw in the near future a chance for France, Russia, and Germany to intervene by joint action in the South African war, and hoped the Kaiser would not make this impossible by an exhibition of sympathy for England. The Paris *Éclair* blames France herself for any change that has come over the Kaiser. Had France, at the time of his telegram to Kruger after the Jameson raid, backed up his action instead of abusing the Germans through her newspapers, he might not now feel that a renewal of opposition would be useless. The Amster-

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dam *Handelsblad* gives an explanation of the present visit, declaring that it was announced "a considerable time ago" and could not be cancelled without difficulty.

Among the London papers, even *The Daily Chronicle* (Radical) expressed the desire that the German Emperor, despite his attitude toward Turkey during the Armenian troubles, be received "with all possible courtesy and hospitality," and predicted that he would receive from the Liberals "at least a calm and reasoned welcome." *The St. James's Gazette* thinks the visit shows that the cloud once obscuring the relations of the two countries "has entirely passed away." The significance of the visit, it thinks, is in this, that it marks the triumph of sober good sense over mere emotion, and shows that the storm of rage and scolding which burst out in German newspapers a few weeks ago is wholly unmportant.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DELAGOA BAY.

FOR a long time past the story has been circulated from England that Delagoa Bay and the surrounding territory would be ceded to England. The reason given is that the arbitration tribunal which has to decide the case between McMurdo (a promoter who obtained a railroad concession, afterward withdrawn) would mulct the Portuguese Government in heavy damages, and that Great Britain would pay the claim and take over Delagoa Bay. The Portuguese seem inclined to give a more willing ear to the arguments of England than they were formerly. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says:

"A pamphlet has been published in Portugal whose writer declares that the Portuguese must, with the help of Great Britain, conquer Spain. Otherwise Spain, in order to show that she is still full of life, will annex Portugal. The Portuguese navy and army should be at once increased, and an alliance, defensive and offensive, concluded with Great Britain. Both powers must bind themselves to defend each other's colonies. Mozambique, the colony in which Delagoa Bay is situated, is to be given to England for a consideration, England to take all responsibility in case France or Germany or both raise objections. This pamphlet, written by an officer near the person of the King, is regarded as a feeler."

There is, however, a strong probability that Germany and France will object—especially the former, which has as yet shown no intention to turn over its African possessions to Great Britain, and whose colonies would be menaced if Great Britain becomes too powerful. Now, Germany concluded in 1898 a secret treaty with Great Britain regarding this very Delagoa Bay. The secret has been well kept, and nothing certain is known about its provisions; it is surmised, however, that Germany permits the acquisition of Delagoa Bay by England only if the independence of the Transvaal is guaranteed. This is the view expressed by the *Kieler Zeitung*, and recent developments seem to indicate its correctness, as Mr. Chamberlain has expressly included the Portuguese as well as the German possessions in his reference to South African territory over which England, "as a matter of course," exercises no influence. The Paris *Journal des Débats* says:

"If Portugal parts with her African possessions, the north of Mozambique will fall to Germany, with a considerable slice of the Angola territory on the west coast. The south of Mozambique, the most important part, including Delagoa Bay, will fall to England. It is, of course, quite possible that Portugal will get out of her financial difficulties in some other way and retain her colonies. At any rate, France must pay close attention to this matter. It will not do to permit a shifting of the equilibrium in Africa without some recompense."

Whatever the advantages to be obtained by Great Britain in the future, she is being closely watched by Germany just now, whose "benevolent neutrality" is entirely in favor of the Boers. The official standpoint is perhaps best set forth in the white book published after the Jameson raid, in which it is declared that Germany's interests demand the preservation of the Boer republics as independent states. Attempts to prevent the landing of arms and ammunition in Delagoa Bay for the Boers were energetically resisted by Germany just before the war, and the attempt to withhold this war material through the agency of the Portuguese authorities has also failed. The Berlin *Tageblatt* relates the following:

"The ammunition of the Transvaal is estimated at 20,000,000 cartridges. There are also 50,000 Mauser rifles. This does not include the 2,000 rifles and 500,000 rounds which the Portuguese authorities recently tried to withhold. The consignment had been addressed to Mr. Andrae, a German subject. The Mauser Company complained to the German Government that they were unjustly prevented from filling a contract. The German Government telegraphed to Lisbon, and the Portuguese Government replied that the consignment consisted of war contraband. The German authorities, however, showed that there could be no violation of the neutrality laws if no actual state of war exists, and that goods addressed to a private individual must be allowed to pass in any case. Portugal then gave the consignment right of way."

There is little doubt that a British raid upon Delagoa Bay, with or without the concurrence of Portugal, would be followed by complications which might more than neutralize the advantages obtained by England. In connection with this it should be pointed out that, unless Germany is willing to exercise special care, war contraband can reach the Boers from Damaraland, if Bechuanaland is entirely in the hands of the Boers. The view expressed by many papers that, as Walfisch Bay is the only port there, and in the hands of the British, war contraband could be stopped by England, is altogether erroneous. Walfisch Bay no longer counts. Being unable to obtain it from England, the Germans have made Swakopmund, at the mouth of the Swakop River, their port. A railroad runs from there to Otjimbingue, crossing the desert zone which formerly made all traffic impossible except at ruinous expense.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Practical Artillery Practise.—"The German Government," says the *Revue du Cercle Militaire*, "bought, a little while ago, for the purpose of enlarging the Lockstedt field of instruction, a tract of ground of considerable size. As there were on this tract a number of buildings, including an entire village called Ridders, which it was necessary to remove, the military authorities profited by the opportunity to illustrate the effectiveness of the new German artillery. Consequently the Ninth and Twenty-fourth artillery regiments, which were in camp at Lockstedt, were ordered to destroy the village with their guns." A German correspondent of the *Allgemeine Schweizerische Militärzeitung* reports the experiment as follows: "The batteries opened with a fire whose effects demonstrated the excellent qualities of our new field-piece. At the fifth shot several houses were burning, and when rapid firing began, the whole village was in flames in a few minutes." On all this, *Cosmos* makes the following sarcastic comment: "The experiment would have been still more conclusive if the village had only been inhabited; we shall come to that by and by."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

An "Open Door" in the Sudan.—Early in December, Lord Kitchener intends to throw the newly conquered Sudan open to all comers. The London *Times* reflects at some length upon the matter-of-fact-way in which this news is announced and received, and gives the following particulars:

"It is the approaching completion of the railway that enables Lord Kitchener to open the Sudan to all comers. The construction of the line has been delayed for two months by storms, otherwise, we presume, it would by this time be possible to take a through ticket from London to Khartum. Next month, however, the delay is to come to an end, and in the mean time the Sirdar is making preparations to put his line to instant use. He has organized a tourist service between Wady Halfa and Khartum with dining- and sleeping cars for eighteen passengers. He seems also to have arranged for a small hotel to receive them. Either public or private enterprise will no doubt provide connections of a correspondingly comfortable kind between the frontier of the Sirdar's domain and Alexandria. We may assume that Mr. Cook will be prepared to take entire charge of intending tourists, and trips to Khartum ought to become a fashionable winter amusement."

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FOREIGN POSSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Germany has eighteen factories, turning out locomotives both for home and foreign use. Fifteen of these build both large and small engines, and three build nothing but small ones for light work. These factories can furnish annually, under normal conditions, 1,400 engines. They employ from 15,000 to 20,000 workmen—the number depending upon the orders. Germany exports locomotives to Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Turkey, South America, South Africa, and Asia. A house here sent nineteen, a year or two ago, to the Dutch East Indies. Up to date, so far as can be found out, no United States engine has entered this empire, altho England has ordered a number. A writer, whom I quote freely, writes Consul Monaghan at Chemnitz, says that work can be more effectively done in the United States, because only a few well-tried forms of engines are made. "In consequence of this," he continues, "the parts are put up and kept in supplies by all parties acting as agents of such engine-builders. This enables those buying American engines to replace broken or injured parts almost instantly." German writers say the firms in Europe could do the same in the time put down for delivery, etc., were it not for the fact that every railroad company, every engineer, wants a particular type. They go so far as to express preferences for different kinds of different parts, and every change of officials or engineers having charge of the purchase of locomotives or their parts brings change in the articles used. Consequently, Germany has found it impossible to keep a supply of parts. "This," says the writer referred to, "may keep Germans from overproduction, etc., but it has the disadvantage of delaying deliveries. An understanding among the builders of locomotives might lead to a system not only advantageous to the empire, but useful to the exporters of locomotives. It would help to keep territory already captured in far-off lands and fit Germany to meet America's rapidly rising influence."

The following extracts are from a letter by Consul-General De Leon, dated Guayaquil, June 12, 1899, to a New York firm, to which the original has been forwarded: "There is no electric power used in Guayaquil and no demand for electrical supplies. I believe, however, that there is an excellent opening for an electric-light and street-railway service. This is a prosperous city of about 50,000 inhabitants, and with the construction of the proposed railway to Quito is bound to increase in population and wealth. It is at present lighted by gas of poor quality, which costs the municipality a considerable sum annually. A street-car system traverses almost every street; but mules, the motive power, are costly. The finances of the municipality are in flourishing condition. The stock of the car company was at 50 in 1895; there is now a large cash reserve equal to 50 per cent. of capitalization; 15 per cent. annual dividends are declared, and the stock brings today $150 per share. Fuel is scarce and expensive, but superb water-power is available at some distance from the city. In 1896, the installation of an electric-light service was in progress; but the great fire, which burned eighty-three blocks of the best part of the city, destroyed the work and caused the enterprise to be abandoned. The city is almost rebuilt with a better class of edifices, and the time seems ripe for a system combining transportation and illumination."

In answer to inquiries from several correspondents in the United States, Consul Nelson, of Bergen, writes, under date of June 28, 1899, that tenders for railroad supplies for state railroads in Norway should be addressed to Styrelson för Statsbanernas Drift og Anlaeg, Christiania.

Great Boom.—$400,000 Sale.

Large real estate sales are being made in the Borough of Richmond, New York City. Last week one Syndicate bought $400,000 worth of unimproved property in the Borough. This is but one of the many deals. See Holiday Club, page 2.

3½ Cents a Day.

Only 3½ cents a day on each $100 the lot costs will buy you a valuable lot in a most beautiful section of New York City. All conveniences, as trolleys, sewers, city water, schools, etc. See page 2.

Reduced Prices on Suits and Cloaks

WE recently had an opportunity of purchasing several hundred pieces of fine suitings and cloakings at a figure which enables us to inaugurate the biggest Reduced Price Sale that we have ever announced.

You can now secure a stylish garment at **a reduction of one-third from former prices.** We expect to make thousands of new friends during this sale. It will enable you to judge of the garments which we make, and see the difference between *our* kind and the ready-made goods which you find in every store. Order from this Reduced Price Sale as freely as you wish; send back anything you don't like, and WE WILL REFUND YOUR MONEY.

One-third has been cut off the price of every suit and cloak in our line, but the quality of materials and workmanship is right up to our usual standard—just as good as if you paid double the money.

Tailor-made Suits, former price $5; reduced to $3.34.
$10 Suits reduced to $6.67.
$15 Suits reduced to $10. $20 Suits reduced to $13.34.
Winter Jackets, former price $5; reduced to $3.34.
$9 Jackets reduced to $6. $12 Jackets reduced to $8.
$15 Jackets reduced to $10.
Separate Skirts, former price $4; reduced to $2.67.
$6 Skirts reduced to $4. $8 Skirts reduced to $5.34.
$12 Skirts reduced to $8.
Reduced prices on Capes, Newmarkets, Rainy Day Suits and Skirts, Bicycle Suits, Silk Skirts, etc.

We are also closing out a few sample garments which were made up for exhibition in our salesroom at one-half their regular prices. We tell you about hundreds of reduced price garments in our Winter Catalogue and Bargain List, which will be sent **Free,** together with samples of the materials, to any lady who wishes them. Write to-day for Catalogue, Samples, and Bargain List; don't delay—the choicest goods will be sold first.

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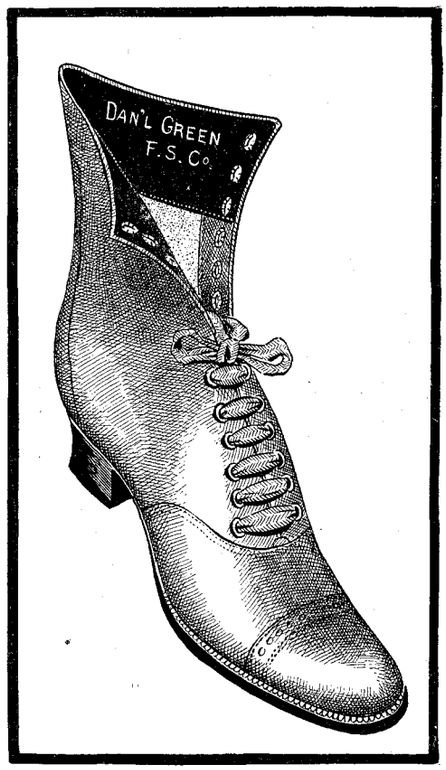
FOR WOMEN

"The Rational"



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very flexible
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Warm and dry feet without overshoes.
Made from finest kid—hand sewed—has kid tips, sensible but strictly up-to-date toes. They are lined with that thin fine wool.

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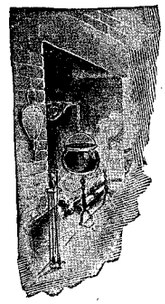

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PERSONALS.

THE death of Charles A. Pillsbury, "the master miller of the world," says *Success*, adds another to the list of prominent men who have died recently at about middle age, with vitality exhausted in the accumulation of vast fortunes. Mr. Pillsbury was born in New Hampshire in 1842. He had a college education, having been graduated from Dartmouth, and went West when a young man. He saw the opportunities for the flouring business in Minneapolis, and borrowed money to obtain a one-third interest in a mill. He allowed nothing to discourage him, and gradually built up the greatest flour industry in the world. He worked even in bed. It was his custom every morning, before rising, to carefully plan his work for the day, and only when something unexpected happened did he depart from his program. He never took time for consideration when in his office, but disposed of questions as they arose and on the impulse of the moment. He arrived quickly at decisions, and promptly executed them. One morning, while in bed, he thought of introducing steam as an auxiliary to the water power. Immediately upon arriving at his office he telegraphed to several firms for estimates for a steam plant. He received prompt replies, and by noon he had ordered a complete steam equipment, to cost $75,000. A feature of his mills was profit-sharing, every employee having a pecuniary interest in the income of the business. He retired from active business about eighteen months ago.

ROBERT TREAT PAINE, says the *Chicago Journal*, is one of Boston's great men and one of the world's leading advocates of peace. For over a quarter of a century he has devoted himself to philanthropy and humanitarianism. He organized the Associated Charities of Boston, which has been the model for benevolent work in many cities in the United States. He has built more than two hundred small houses to be sold on easy credits, and originated a workingman's building association which has built more than one hundred similar homes. He has been a firm friend of the co-operative banks, and has done as much as any other man to promote their growth in Massachusetts. He is the author of several papers along lines of his specialty, and his essay on "The Material Advancement of European Disarmament" has been printed in every European language. Mr. Paine was born in Boston, in 1835, of an old family that has helped make Massachusetts' history. He is the father of Robert Treat Paine, Jr., who was recently nominated for governor by the Democratic Party.

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

Dovetailed.—Professor Charles G. D. Roberts, the poet, reads the modern languages very easily, but speaks them imperfectly. At a reception held in New York just prior to his leaving for Europe, Roberts was introduced to a distinguished French artist, who was here on a visit. The artist asked in his own tongue: "You speak French?" "No," answered the poet; "I am sorry I do not, but I understand it well when it is spoken to me." "I am so glad," replied the Frenchman; "you are the audience I have long wanted. I can talk to you all I please and you can not talk back!"—*Saturday Evening Post.*

James Whitcomb Riley's Joke.—James Whitcomb Riley and Nye were a peculiar pair, says the Philadelphia *Saturday Post*. They were everlastingly playing practical jokes.

I remember when we were riding together in the smoking compartments between Columbus and Cincinnati. Mr. Nye was a great smoker, and Mr. Riley did not dislike tobacco. An old farmer came over to Mr. Nye and said:

"Are you Mr. Riley? I heard you was on the train."

"No, I am not Mr. Riley. He is over there."

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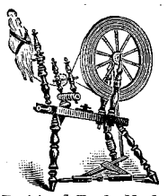

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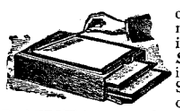

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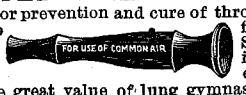

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"Er, what?"
"Is this Mr. Riley?"
"What did you say?"
"Is this Mr. Riley?"
"Riley, yes."
"I know your father."
"No bother."
"I knew your father."
"What?"
"I knew your father."
"Oh, so did I."

And in a few moments the farmer heard him talking in an ordinary tone of voice.

Current Events.

Monday, November 20.

—More fighting takes place around Ladysmith; the Boers **occupy Campbell,** in West Griqualand.

—**Emperor William** lands at Portsmouth, and goes to Windsor as the **guest of the Queen.**

—The American column under General MacArthur occupies **Dagupan in Luzon,** Aguinaldo and his army having fled.

—Admiral Dewey **transfers to his wife** the house in Washington recently presented to him, and the act arouses much hostile criticism.

—The members of the Executive Committee of the **Democratic National Committee** meet in Chicago to determine the party's policy.

Tuesday, November 21.

—The **British campaign** against the Boers is developed by General Buller on an extensive scale at Cape Town, and contemplates a speedy relief of the besieged towns.

—Vice-President **Garret A. Hobart dies** at his home in Paterson, N. J.; his death is announced to the country by a Presidential proclamation.

—Admiral Dewey's wife transfers the **house in Washington** to the Admiral's son.

—The annual dinner of the **Chamber of Commerce** is held at Delmonico's, New York, Thomas B. Reed and Governor Roosevelt being among the speakers.

Wednesday, November 22.

—General Methuen with a strong force crosses the Orange River, and advances to the **relief of Kimberley.**

—Preparations are made for the **Vice-President's funeral,** to take place on Saturday afternoon at Paterson.

—Members of Congress receive an appeal from the **Filipino Junta** in Hongkong praying for recognition of the Filipino republic.

—Dr. Von Holleben, **German Ambassador** in Washington, talks on international questions, declaring that all differences between this country and Germany have disappeared.

Thursday, November 23.

—General Methuen wins a **victory at Belmont,** and captures forty prisoners; General French also engages in combat.

—Four hundred **Dervishes are killed** in the Sudan by Anglo-Egyptian forces.

—Mr. Chamberlain **visits the Kaiser** at Windsor.

—Thomas Henry **Ismay,** founder of the White Star Line of steamers, dies at Liverpool.

—The Postmaster-General **extends domestic rates** of postage to Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and Guam.

Friday, November 24.

—The situation in **South Africa** remains unchanged; the Queen sends congratulations to General Methuen.

—General Otis reports that the last claim to existence of the insurgent **government in Luzon** has vanished; the President of the Filipino Congress surrenders to General MacArthur.

—Emperor William and the Prince of Wales **visit Blenheim Palace.**

—A split occurs in the **Spanish War veterans,** and Admiral Dewey is chosen commander-in-chief of a new society.

—A **swindling financier** of Brooklyn, Wm. F. Miller, who promised "ten per cent. per week" and obtained hundred of thousands of dollars, is indicted by the King's County Grand Jury.

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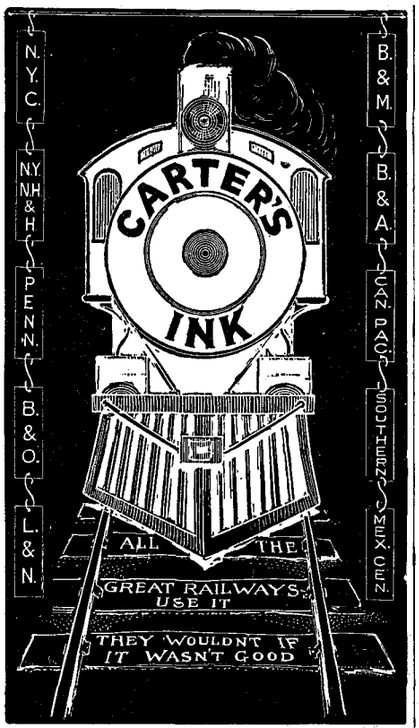

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Saturday, November 25.

—The Boers **blow up the railway** south of Naanwpoort, thus delaying the relief forces.

—A crushing defeat is inflicted on the **Dervishes** in the Sudan by an Anglo-Egyption force under General Wingate, and the Khalifa is killed.

—The **funeral of Vice-President Hobart** at Paterson, N. J., is attended by the President, the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court, and many other public men.

—**Rear-Admiral Schley,** commander-in-chief of the South Atlantic Squadron, sails from New York on his flagship, the *Chicago*, for Buenos Ayres.

Sunday, November 26.

—General Lord Methuen **defeats another Boer force** which attempted to oppose his advance to Kimberley; the British naval brigade suffers heavily.

—Admiral Watson cables news from Manila of the **unconditional surrender** of the whole province of Zamboanga to Commander Very, of the *Castine*.

—Negotiations are in progress for a new commercial treaty between the **United States and Russia.**

—The opening sessions of the **Methodist Episcopal Church** Congress are held at St. Louis.

CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."

Problem 434.

BY J. STENT.

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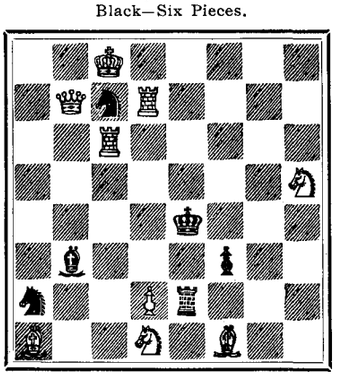

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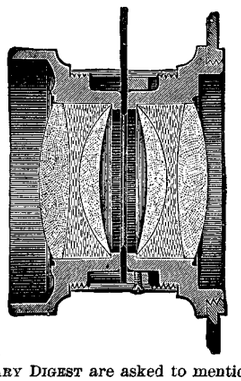

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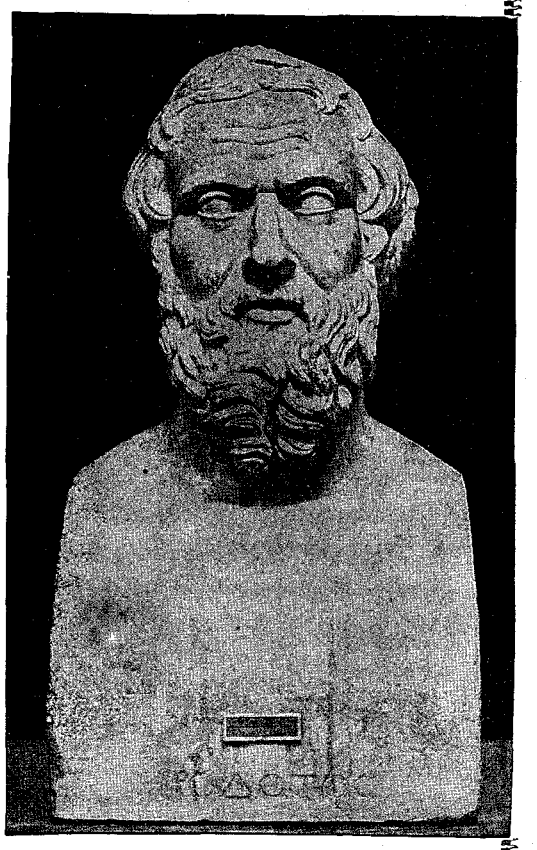

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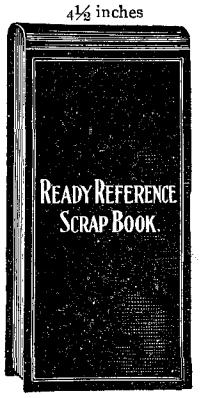

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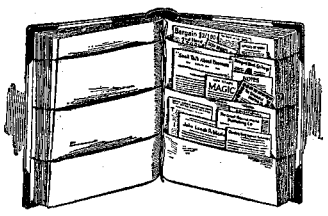

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Solution of Problems.

No. 428.

Key-move, Kt—B 8.

No. 429.

1. Kt—B 4 / K x Kt (K 4 or B 4)	2. Q—K 5 / Any	3. Q—Q 4, mate
1. ..... / K—K 3	2. Q—Kt 8 ch / K—Q 2	3. Kt—K 5, mate
	2. ..... / K—B 4	3. Kt—Q 6, mate
1. ..... / K—B 3	2. Q x B ch / K—Q 2	3. Kt—B 5, mate
1. ..... / P—B 6	2. Q—K 8 / K x Kt (B 4)	3. Q—Kt 5, mate
	2. ..... / Any other	3. Kt—K 3, mate

Solvers who sent Kt—Q 3 as the key-move overlooked Black's reply, P—B 6.

Both problems solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. S. M. Morton, D.D., Effingham, Ill.; Prof. C. D. Schmitt, University of Tennessee; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; A. F. Rudolph, Duluth, Minn.; A Knight, Bastrop, Tex.

428 only, C. F. McMullan, Madison C. H., Va.; W. Müller, New York City.; "Merope," Cincinnati; E. C. Routh, San Saba, Tex.; the Rev. A. H. H., Salt Lake City; S. the S., Auburndale, Mass.; Dr. W. M. Robertson, Warren, Pa.; Dr. G. S. Henderson, Jackson, Mo.; Dr. O. F. Blankingship, Richmond, Va.

Comments (428): "Good"—M. W. H.; "Well conceived and and cleverly constructed"—I. W. B.; "Beautiful"—F. S. F.; "Simple but pretty"—M. M.; "A Knightly joust"—S. M. M.; "Excellent"—C. D. S.; "Pretty, but seemingly some surplusage"—W. R. C.; "Of exceeding merit"—A. F. R.; "Beautifully fine"—A K.; "Well constructed"—W. M.

(429) "Excellent"—M. W. H.; "White's Pawns are placed with surpassing skill"—I. W. B.; "One of the best"—F. S. F.; "First class"—C. R. O.; "Very fine"—M. M.; "Most difficult"—S. M. M.; "Key easily found"—C. D. S.; "Exquisitely artful"—A K.

The Rev. S. M. M., T. R. Denison, Asheville, N. C.; W. H. H. C., Canadian, Tex.; "Merope," got 427. Drs. G. S. H. and O. F. B. got 424.

Several solvers cannot see how R—R 6 solves 424. They write that, when Black replies K—K 4, there is no mate. How about Kt—Q 3, ch? Pawn can not take, and if it is not mate please indicate Black's answer.

No. 426 should have a White R on K R sq. No. 430 has a dual solution.

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"It often happens in Chess," says Reichelm in *The Times*, Philadelphia, "that twin moves, apparently of the same value, are very different in point of value. The following 3 x 2 end-game aptly illustrates this idea. To the casual glance it appears indifferent what move is made first, but actually there is only one first move on the board which will force a win for White:

WHITE (3 pieces): K on Q Kt 5; Kt on K R 2; P on Q R 5.

BLACK (2 pieces): K on Q Kt sq; P on K R 6.

White to play and win.

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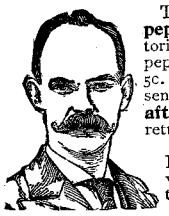

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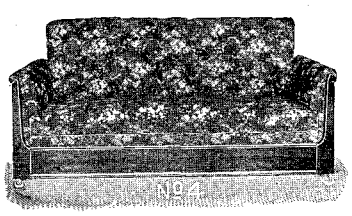

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